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MAZADA TOURS

Murdered teen's pal found in Ashkelon

RAINE MARCUS

MAXIM Agronov, the 17-year-old who was last seen with murdered 16-year-old Amit Molcho nearly two weeks ago, was found in an Ashkelon shopping mall yesterday, begging for money and food.

He was recognized by two women who had seen his picture in the press.

They alerted municipal officials and police, who picked him up and took him back to Rehovot.

Search for Karmiel girl continues, Page 20

One official told reporters that Agronov looked "tired, dirty, and unkempt."

Agronov had said he was unaware that his family and police were searching for him. He just wanted to go home, he said.

Molcho's body was found three days ago in an orange grove just 300 meters from his home. He was probably stabbed to death the day after his disappearance, said police.

(Continued on Page 20)

Families of Munich victims file lawsuit against Germany

NETTY C. GROSS

TWENTY-three years after the slaughter of 11 Israeli athletes by terrorists at the 1972 Munich Olympics, 29 of the victims' dependents have filed a DM 40 million negligence suit against the German government and officials of Munich and Bavaria.

According to a legal brief supplied by the plaintiffs to *The Jerusalem Post* this week, the Germans are being charged with negligence in the deaths of all 11 athletes.

The plaintiffs will present

(Continued on Page 20)



Palestinians carry the coffin of murdered Islamic Jihad activist Mahmoud Hawaja during his funeral yesterday in Gaza. (Reuter)

Jihad vows to avenge activist's murder

ISLAMIC Jihad vowed suicide attacks against Israel to avenge the murder of Mahmoud Hawaja, an activist who was gunned down near his home in Gaza's Shati refugee camp yesterday.

Hawaja, 33, was jailed for a month by the Palestinian Police after the Beit Lid and Kfar Darom bombings in January and April.

Witnesses said Hawaja was working as a garbage collector for UNRWA and was pushing a cart in a Shati alley when a car drove up with three men inside, two of them masked. One of the masked men opened fire from a pistol fitted with a silencer, hitting Hawaja who died on the spot.

On walls in Gaza, graffiti said: "Rabin, you villain. Yesterday Hani Abed, today Hawaja, tomorrow violent revenge. To Rabin and his soldiers, you should expect more Beit Lids and Netzarims."

JON IMMANUEL

Abed was killed by a car bomb last November, after the Gaza police released him following suspicion he was behind an attack in which two IDF soldiers were killed. Israel was widely considered to be behind his assassination.

Some 2,500 attended Hawaja's funeral. Many shouted "Death to Israel. Death to America."

Unlike Abed, who was a senior Jihad leader, Hawaja was only a middle-ranking member. He was jailed in 1985 by Israel for burning its flag on the Islamic University campus and spent several months in administrative detention during the intifada.

In Damascus, Islamic Jihad head Fathi Shukaki accused the Mossad of instigating the killing. He vowed his fighters would hit back soon.

"The response of Islamic Jihad to the assassination of Hawaja will be rapid," he told Reuter. "The Israelis will not know the taste of security and peace when they are planting explosives and firing bullets at the chests of our people."

Marwan Kanafani, an adviser to PA Chairman Yasser Arafat, told reporters that Arafat "was angry at this terrorist act" and gave orders to the police to investigate.

Meanwhile, a poll taken to mark the first year of autonomy found that 32 percent of Palestinians "support continued Hamas and Islamic Jihad suicide operations against Israeli targets under the current political conditions."

The supporters stressed that there is "no other solution" (24%), "because occupation still exists" (18%), "Israel understands only

(Continued on Page 20)

Nine Israelis among 27 missing sailors

News agencies

SEOUL

NINE Israeli seamen were among 27 sailors missing and feared dead after a Liberian bulk carrier collided with a Korean ship in thick fog and sank early yesterday in the East China Sea.

The Japanese coast guard, searching rough seas, recovered two bodies, believed to be crewmen of the 177,770-ton *Mineral Dempier*, but did not find any survivors, the South Korean police said.

The missing Israelis are: Capt. Philippe Eyron, 53, of Eilat, the ship's master; Uri Berger, 59, of Haifa, the wireless officer; Shaul Ben-Tov, 57, of Tel Aviv, the chief mechanic; Leonid Kopelyanov, 51, of Acre, the chief electrician; Moshe Kol, 52, of Kiryat Motzkin, the leading seaman; Yitzhak Harush, 38, of Tirat Carmel, a seaman; David Dinar, 59, the chief oiler; Amram Attias, 60, of Kiryat Bialik, a cook; and Yehuda Hazan, 60, of Haifa, a waiter.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres visited Capt. Eyron's wife yesterday afternoon to update her on the situation. The ship was due to have docked in a South Korean port yesterday, and Eyron was to have flown home today.

Emerging from her house, Peres said, "So far, we don't know much about what happened. Two bodies have been found; we have no knowledge of the fate of the other seamen, but nothing is final until the searches have been completed. The Foreign Ministry situation room is following events closely."

The Maritime and Ports Administration, meanwhile, has assigned Capt. Danny Cohen to investigate the sinking of the *Mineral Dempier*. Cohen has been provided with photographs and other identifying details of the missing Israeli seamen, to aid him in identifying any bodies."

At about 2:30 p.m., Capt. Eliko Sternberg, in charge of training and certification for the Maritime and Ports Administration, spoke by telephone with the captain of the South Korean ship involved in the collision, the *Hanjin Madras*. He was told that search operations had halted for the night, but would be resumed at first light.

"We think that the chances of any survivors are extremely low," said a maritime officer.

The *Mineral Dempier* was carrying iron ore from Brazil to South Korea when it was hit amidships by the 77,650-ton *Hanjin Madras*, maritime police said.

They said rescue efforts were delayed because the South Korean freighter reported the accident five hours after it happened, 257 km south of Cheju, South Korea's southernmost island.

Officials at Hanjin Shipping Co., which owns the South Korean ship, refused to comment. The South Korean ship was damaged but did not sink.

The *Mineral Dempier* crew also included seamen from the Philippines, Romania, and Belgium.

Major quits as party leader

LONDON (Reuter) – A defiant British Prime Minister John Major resigned yesterday as leader of his deeply divided Conservative Party and invited opponents to challenge him for the ruling party's leadership.

In a dramatic statement in the garden of his 10 Downing Street residence, Major said he expects to win the leadership contest and would continue as prime minister if he does so.

Major, prime minister since November 1990, said he is not prepared to let the party – split over Europe – be laid out on the rack any longer by infighting, which had sparked repeated speculation of a leadership challenge later in the year.

"That is why I am no longer prepared to tolerate the present situation. In short, it is time to put up or shut up," he said.

(Full story, Page 6)

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Jordan is not dissatisfied with peace – Hassan to Peres

DAVID MAKOVSKY

JORDAN is not dissatisfied with the results of peace, media reports to that effect notwithstanding, Crown Prince Hassan told Foreign Minister Shimon Peres during a two-hour meeting in Amman yesterday.

"Things are very far from negative," Hassan said, according to a participant. He made it clear he thinks changes take time to occur.

In a radio interview after the meeting, Peres said the two discussed the possibility of Hassan visiting Israel. There is reason to believe that such a visit could be scheduled once there is an agreement with the Palestinians on expanding autonomy throughout the territories. Such an agreement is supposed to be reached by July 1 but is more likely to be finalized later next month.

By waiting for this agreement, Hassan could deflect domestic criticism of a visit. The Jordanian parliament is now debating the repeal of anti-Israel laws, but there has been parliamentary opposition to the peace treaty.

Peres and Hassan met one-on-one for half an hour about an unspecified topic. For the rest of the meeting, Hassan was joined by Jordan's Foreign Minister Abdul Kabiriti, and Hani Mulki, the Foreign Ministry diplomat heading the peace implementation effort. Peres was joined by Ambassador to Jordan Shimon Shamir and personal aide Mark Sofaer.

The meeting was initiated by Hassan, generating speculation that Jordan wants assurances that nothing in the soon-to-be-concluded negotiations with the Palestinians will adversely effect its interests. Jordan was taken by surprise not only by the Oslo accord, but by the scope of the economic agreement reached just before self-rule was implemented in May, 1994.

After Peres updated Hassan on the negotiations with the Palestinians, there were talks about joint Eilat-Akaba cooperation, including potential plans for joining ports and joint tourism projects. The two also discussed Hassan's idea to set up joint technological centers in a variety of locations.

Another issue raised was the upcoming regional business conference in Amman on October 28. Both agreed on the need for greater US involvement in planning the conference, and on the necessity of inducing American businessmen to invest in private sector business projects with their Jordanian and Israeli counterparts.

Hassan and Peres agreed that the conference should also be coordinated with the European Union, so that the Amman parley could serve as a prelude to the one be sponsored by the EU in Barcelona three weeks later.

Meanwhile, Jordan's Bar Association said it would try one of its members, the head of a centrist political party, for violating its laws by visiting Israel, Reuters reported.

Ahmed Zoubi, head of the Al-Ahrar party, which supports peace with Israel, visited last week, the first such public trip by a political group since the peace treaty.

Winning cards and numbers

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the king of spades, king of hearts, seven of diamonds, and nine of clubs.

In last night's Payis Hazak drawing, the holder of ticket number 144323 won NIS 1,000,000.

The holder of ticket number 460381 won a car.

Tickets numbered 843691, 189884, 283160, 593207, 832498, 008148, 822341 and 799839 won NIS 5,000. Those tickets ending in 06973, 43134, 43324, 46325, 03182, 74182, 53080, 07676, 81823, 65036, 55895, 87047, 72212, 32814, 16223 23241, 66034, 01484 and 52958 won NIS 1,000. Tickets ending in 909, 186, 026, 681, and 191 won NIS 100. Tickets ending in 48, 11, 20, 35 and 36 won NIS 24. Tickets ending in 9 and 0 won NIS 8.

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Brandeis University alumni are invited to a reception for Brandeis President Yehuda Reinharz on Monday, June 26. For details, call 02-322224.

The board, directors, and staff of the Israel Center, a division of the Orthodox Union, welcome Dr. Mandell I. Ganchrow, president of the Orthodox Union, who has arrived for Jewish Agency meetings.

Syrian VP: Negotiations still have far to go

DAMASCUS (Reuter) – Syrian Vice-President Abdel-Halim Khaddam said yesterday that a big gap remained between Syria and Israel on the terms for peace and that talks would be worthless unless Israel agreed to full withdrawal from the Golan Heights and Lebanon.

Khaddam, playing down the chances of progress in next week's negotiations in Washington, told a news conference that the "conceptual agreement" Syria and Israel reached last month did not contain anything of substance.

The chiefs of staff of the two countries, Lt.-Gen. Hikmat Shihabi and Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, will meet in Washington from Tuesday to discuss security arrangements.

Khaddam said: "In the light of the results of the talks we'll be able to say how optimistic we are. But so far the gulf is still wide between the two sides.

"We can't say there are any significant or specific points on which agreement has been reached. What's been agreed is some concepts related to security arrangements."

Khaddam cast doubt on Israel's desire for peace, saying Israel could have peace within a matter of weeks just by withdrawing from all the Golan Heights and South Lebanon.

But he ruled out any kind of phased settlement, such as a partial withdrawal in exchange for partial normalization.

"We don't agree to the policy of doing it piecemeal... how could anyone imagine the possibility of setting up normal relations as long as there's one Israeli soldier on an inch of Syrian soil?" he said.

PLO accuses Israel of stalling talks

CAIRO (Reuter) – A PLO negotiator yesterday accused Israel of stalling transfer of civilian powers to Palestinians in the territories, making it impossible to meet a July 1 target for reaching agreement.

"We have failed to reach any results or agreement," Jamil Tarifi, head of the Palestinian delegation, told a news conference at the end of three days of talks in Cairo.

"I believe that if we continue on in this spirit and in this way we cannot reach any results at all," Tarifi said. "The main danger is that the Israelis are not committed to ...July 1."

Oren Shahor, head of the Israeli delegation, played down the dispute, saying there was no crisis, only differences.

He told reporters that both sides would meet in Cairo on Tuesday to try to find a solution with only a short time left to reach an accord.

Tarifi said Israel was stalling the negotiations by offering partial transfer of authority in eight spheres they are expected to handover to the Palestinians by July 1. The spheres are insurance, labor, energy, local government, postal services, trade, agriculture, and public affairs.

In the agriculture sphere for example, Tarifi said, the Israelis wanted to transfer responsibility to the Palestinians, without relinquishing control over irrigation and forests.

Israel says irrigation would be discussed under the water sphere after July 1.

Shahor said the talks were held in a good atmosphere.

"We shall do our best to finalize the spheres before July 1. That is our wish. We have to work on it, but we need two partners to tango," the Israeli said.

US, EU, allocate $2.5 million for Middle East water projects

Other funds slated to fight regional desertification

AMMAN (AP) – The US and the European Union have allocated $2.5 million to set up data banks to improve management of the Middle East's water resources, a US official said yesterday.

Richard LeBaron, a senior State Department official, said the money will be spent over the next two years and that plans are under way to raise further funding after that.

LeBaron spoke at the end of a four-day meeting of delegates from 42 countries to discuss water shortages in the region and environmental protection.

LeBaron, whose country chairs the water working group in the multilateral talks, said Germany is working closely with Jordan, Israel, and the Palestinians on studies to assess water availability.

Luxembourg, Sweden, and the Netherlands have projects to help regional countries – primarily the Palestinians – better manage their water resources, he told a news conference.

During the conference, he said, the US and Oman agreed to allocate $3 million each to establish a regional desalination research center that would be based in the sultanate. He said the center will be launched soon, but gave no date.

LeBaron said the time is ripe to launch some projects even though Syria and Lebanon have refused to join the regional talks until tangible progress is made in their negotiations with Israel.

"Indeed, we've turned to a phase of implementation of practical projects," he said. "We're launching into that phase now, and we don't need for other people to be involved.

"All these projects are stretching for other countries to be involved as they come into the process," he said, noting that funds are available to launch some projects immediately.

A final communique said the EU, Switzerland, and Japan, which heads a working group on the protection of the environment, agreed to fund a World Bank initiative to combat desertification in the region. No figures were immediately available however.

The three-page communique said Jordan, Egypt, and Israel are "continuing their efforts for a regional approach to establish centers that will combat oil spills" in the Red Sea.

Report: Antisemitic incidents rising

MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK

ANTISEMITIC incidents are increasing and anti-Jewish hostility expressed by Islamic militants is rising, according to the just-released *Anti-semitism World Report 1995*.

The report was a joint project of the Institute of Jewish Affairs, based in London, and the American Jewish Committee in New York.

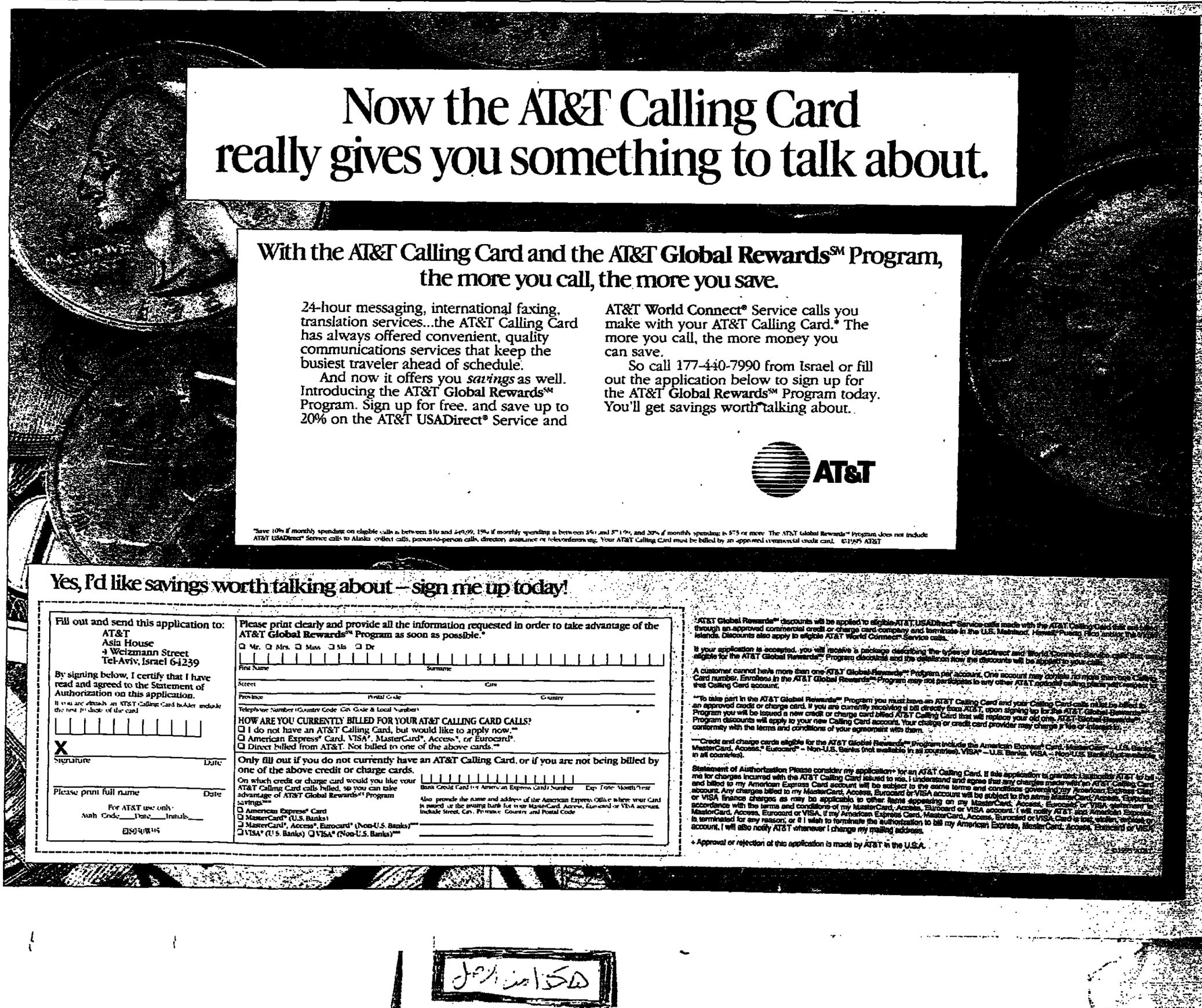
The most serious incident in 1994 was the attack last July on the Jewish communal building in Buenos Aires, in which nearly 100 people were killed. Many observers believe that Hizbullah was involved in that attack.

Of special concern is "racism in cyberspace," in which computer networks are used to disseminate racist material and to maintain links between antisemitic groups. The technology is hard to police, regulate or supervise, the report noted, adding that this form of communication might encourage "observers" to become more active in racist circles.

Antisemitic ideology is playing a greater role among Islamic clerics and movements, the report said. Xenophobic rhetoric was being used by such movements in Jordan, Egypt and Algeria.

However, the report cautioned: "This antisemitism emanates from only a very small part of the Islamic world and only a very small minority is actively propagating it in non-Moslem countries with sizable Moslem communities.

"Nonetheless, Islamic extremism poses a threat to certain Jewish communities, to society in general and to Moslem governments and societies for whom Islamic activity constitutes an extremely destabilizing phenomenon."



هكذا من الأصل



A Ramallah youth locks up his family's shop as tires burn in the town's main square at the beginning of a demonstration in solidarity with hunger-striking Palestinian prisoners. Palestinians said IDF soldiers threw stun grenades into a crowd of women marchers, then waded in wielding clubs. Activists warned of a new intifada if the prisoners are not released. (Reuters)

Peace Now suggests buying out settlers

BILL HUTMAN

PEACE NOW has unveiled a plan calling for settlers who own homes and want to move within the Green Line to be compensated at the rate of $10,000 per family plus the value of their homes.

Each family would receive a minimum of $50,000 for evacuating its home. The group suggested using US loan guarantees to help pay the compensation.

"We are talking about between $100,000 and $150,000 for each of the 25,000 to 30,000 families we estimate [live in the areas]," said Mosi Raz, an architect of the plan, according to Reuter.

Instead of the money, settlers could opt for receiving an alternative home built by the state and of the same size within the Green Line, according to the plan.

Settlers who rent would receive $5,000 for each year they lived in the home, up to a maximum of $50,000.

The plan also calls for the state to subsidize mortgages and offer rental assistance to settlers who evacuate their homes. A settler who loses his job because of the move would be compensated by 200 percent.

Yesterday, Peace Now sent a letter to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin outlining the plan. The group wants the plan to be implemented immediately, to avoid the mistakes of waiting until the last minute with such plans, said group spokesman Dani Miodownik.

The letter was sent yesterday in response to Rabin's comments Wednesday about the high cost of maintaining settlements in outlying areas of Judea and Samaria.

On Wednesday, Peace Now leaders met with residents of Kiryat Arba, Ma'aleh Efraim, Emanuel, and Ginot Shomron in Jerusalem to discuss the establishment of a non-profit association to coordinate the evacuation, Miodownik said.

The Peace Now plan was blasted by the Likud.

"Peace Now is using ugly methods and trying to bribe settlers and pioneers into leaving their homes out of greed," said a Likud statement. "The Likud emphasizes that Peace Now represents a marginal minority with in the people. After failing to convince the Israeli public of its cause by fair and legitimate means, it is forced to use immoral and invalid means that will be deplored by most of the Israeli public."

MK David Mena said he would make his Knesset office available for a campaign to attract development town residents to move to settlements.

National Religious Party leader Zevulun Hammer called Peace Now's call "despicable" while NRP MK Hanan Porat called it "immoral."

Yechiel Leiter, spokesman for the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza, said the Peace now plan reflected, "The ideological bankruptcy of the prime minister and government."

Rabin unequivocally supports Nahal's continued existence

SARAH HONIG

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin yesterday came out unequivocally in favor of the continued existence of Nahal, the IDF brigade that combines settlement and combat duties.

Earlier in the week, a subcommittee of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense committee recommended that Nahal be disbanded on the grounds that it is "outdated and irrelevant," and that its outposts are maintained "out of inertia, not community or security needs."

Addressing members of the Labor Party political bureau, Rabin maintained that he "was not a privy to the drawing up of the report, and was never heard nor consulted on the subject. I never saw the report or had any idea that it was being produced. The first I heard of it was on radio news reports."

"Lest there be any doubt about where I stand, I am telling you, without any qualification, that I am 100 percent in favor of the Nahal's continued existence," he added.

Rabin argued that "even if the kibbutz movement is in trouble, the Nahal framework should be maintained as a potential of providing aid to border settlements." He argued that the committee's recommendation "is not binding."

Meanwhile, Shimon Sheves put in his first appearance at a Labor bureau meeting since he resigned his as director-general of the Prime Minister's Office to manage Rabin's interests on the party level, ahead of the upcoming primary and general election campaigns.

Discharged cancer victim recognized as IDF fallen

ALON PINKAS

IN a precedent-setting decision, the army recognized a soldier who died of cancer as an IDF fallen soldier, although he died after the army arbitrarily discharged him. This entitles his family to survivor's benefits.

Sgt. Liron Pollak, a combat soldier who had served in Lebanon, was diagnosed with cancer while in uniform. After initial treatment, the army decided to discharge him, despite his requests to remain in the service. In July 1994, several months after he was involuntarily discharged, Pollak died, but the army refused to grant him fallen soldier status.

The family then appealed to MK Ran Cohen (Meretz), who asked the IDF to reverse its decision on the grounds that it owes something to an individual who contributed to the IDF as best as he could.

Cohen also asked Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair to formulate coherent regulations governing cases in which the army arbitrarily discharges a soldier against his will.

NRP rejects primary elections

SARAH HONIG

THE National Religious Party convention last night rejected MKs Hanan Porat and Yitzhak Levy's proposal that it pick its next Knesset list by primary elections.

A sizeable majority sided with party leader Zevulun Hammer's position that the the current system will leave only the rich and famous in the arena."

But there was no controversy at the party's convention, which met in Tel Aviv's Beit Hahayal, over Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's complaints about the financial burden of insuring security for outlying settlements in the territories or about Peace Now's plan to offer financial compensation to settlers who opt to relocate inside the Green Line.

Hammer categorized Rabin's words as "dastardly. Their aim is transparent. It is yet another in a long series of attempts to shake the settlers' confidence and render them the object of the nation's hatred.

"The sort of accounts Rabin is keeping can be applied to any place and anyone in the country. It is possible to compile figures showing how much of a burden Jerusalem places on the taxpayer, or Ramat Gan, or the Galilee."

Porat said he is submitting a bill which will demand either elections or a referendum "before Oslo II is implemented."

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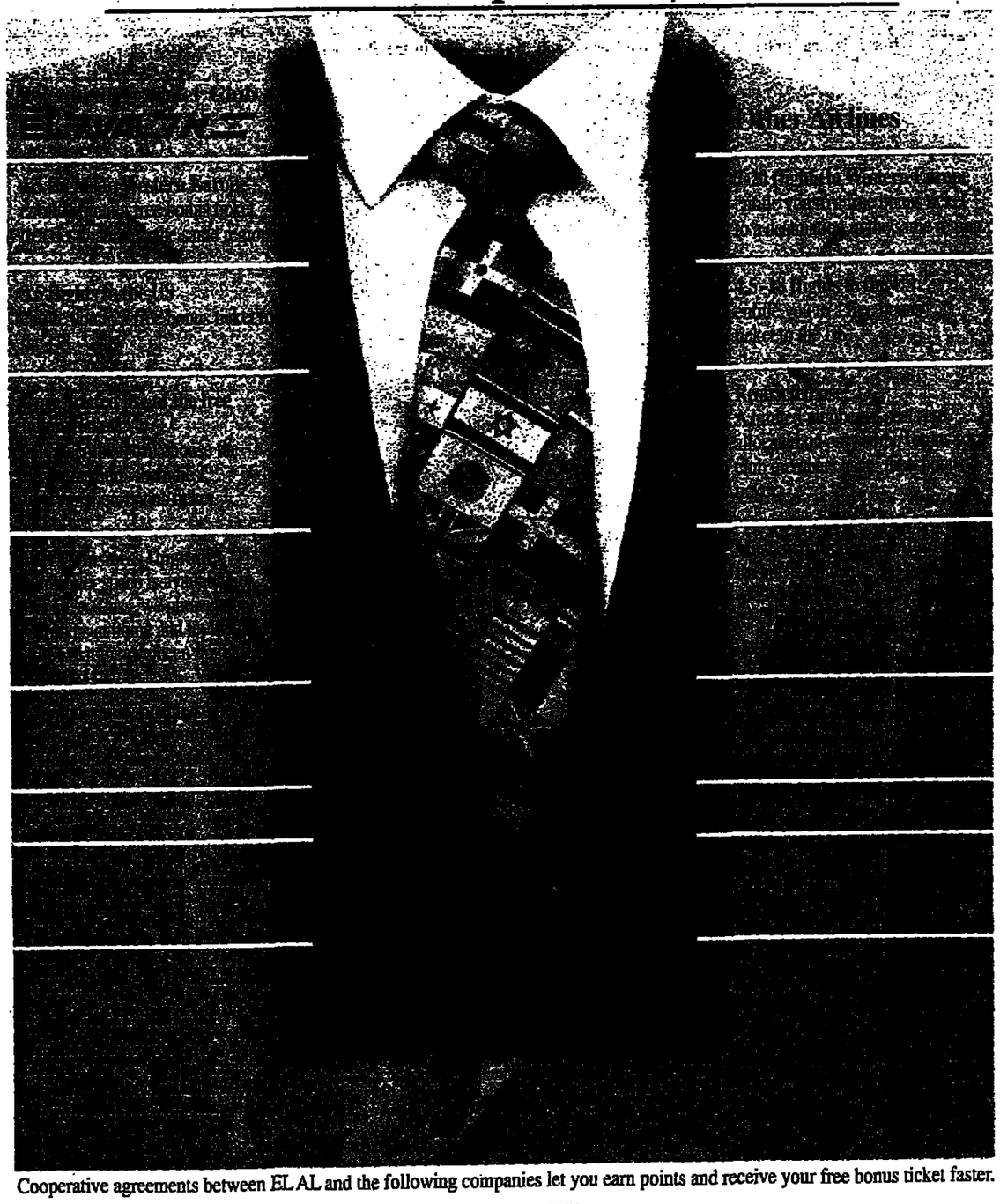
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Rabin's fusillades

IF there is one thing about the government's handling of the peace process which never ceases to amaze, it is Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's savaging of the Jewish residents of the Golan and the territories. On Wednesday he again let go with a fusillade of invective against "two settlements of 30 families each, which will cost us $250,000 per family to protect, while they provide us with no security at all."

Leaving aside the highly exaggerated estimates Rabin habitually permits himself so as to dramatize his point, and overlooking the gratuitous disparagement of guiltless people, one must wonder what the purpose of these accusations can be.

The most obvious answer is that this is an alibi. If the government is now faced with the possibility of having to raise taxes to finance the withdrawal, the "settlers" can be blamed. Had they not existed, the expenses, Rabin implies, would be infinitely smaller.

Similarly, if the government now has to cut services, or if education and welfare suffer, or if new immigrants fail to receive the assistance they were promised, the settlers can serve as the perfect scapegoat. And if huge sums are allotted by the Treasury to rescue failing enterprises like the Clalit health fund or the kibbutzim, and if haredi institutions have to be subsidized to keep the coalition together, voters can be reminded that the settlers are a terrible drain.

The taxpayer may wonder why the huge expenses of the current withdrawal in Judea and Samaria were not taken into account when the Oslo agreement was signed. It was then that the conditions for the interim agreement were set, and surely it is no secret that security arrangements involving bypass roads and the redeployment of large army units are extremely costly.

It may be that in the Oslo euphoria, little thought was given to the possibility that the army's withdrawal from Arab population centers would bring anything but bliss, and that security challenges may exist even in the region's new era. But if such miscalculation did occur, the two small settlements Rabin tongue-lashed on Wednesday are hardly to blame.

To target the settlers as a major impediment to the implementation of the Oslo agreement – something the PLO must view with special satisfaction – may be convenient, but it is woefully short-sighted. The fact is that a large majority of the Jewish population of this country wants all the communities of Judea and Samaria left in place and adequately protected during the interim period. And since this is also the government's declared policy, one would have expected Rabin to use such a consensus to his advantage. A call for unity around the government's efforts, an understanding for the worries and anxieties of the settlers, and a pledge to do whatever possible to assure their safety would have done wonders for Rabin's stature as a national leader.

Instead, he has resorted to the by-now-familiar snide digs at people of faith who trusted their government and did what they thought was best for the country, often sacrificing personal comforts and risking their lives. This is not the kind of leadership the country needs in the difficult times ahead, when the current financial sacrifices will seem like small change indeed.

Major hounded out

BRITISH Prime Minister John Major's resignation as leader of the Conservative Party may have taken his country by surprise yesterday, but it is obvious he had little choice if he is to outflank his enemies. The surprise came only from the timing, since most analysts had been expecting to mull over the government's crisis right up to a Conservative leadership challenge in November.

With disaster piling daily upon disaster for the most unfortunate and unpopular leader of post-war Britain, his conclusion that "this can't go on" for another five months was an inevitable one. It is not unusual for mid-term leaders and governments to sail into doldrums with the electorate or to be pounded by the parliamentary opposition. What has been unusual in Major's case has been the ferocity of the sniping from his own party. The Conservative Party as a whole seems to suffering from the malaise of having been too long in office, the main symptoms of which appear to be an odd combination of complacency, arrogance and irritability.

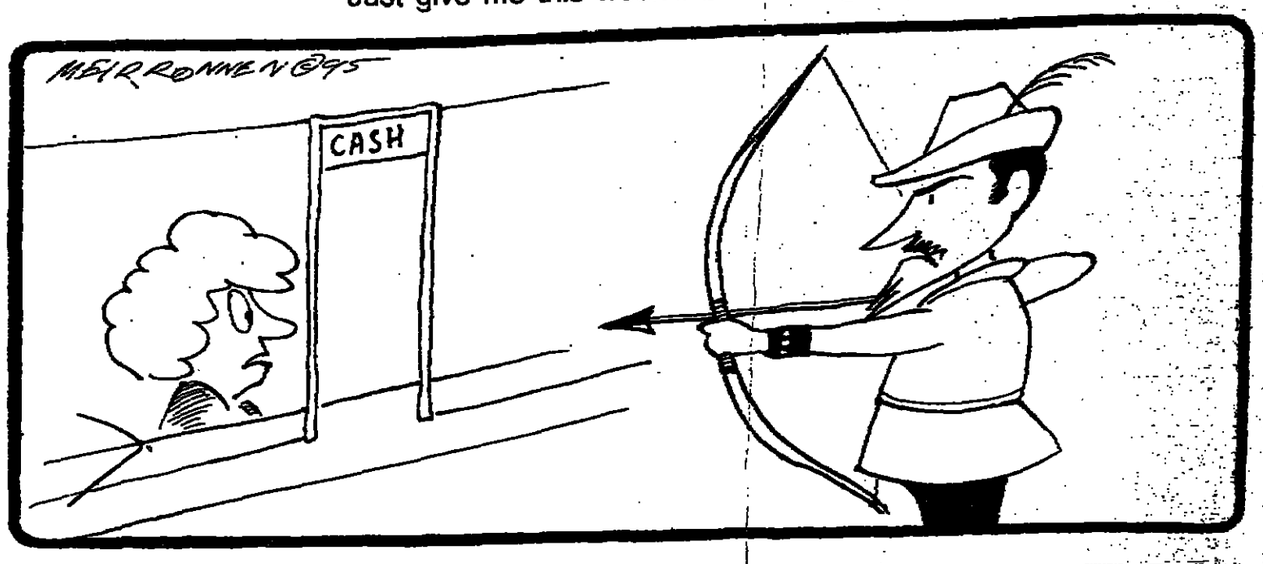
It is the same explosive mixture that propelled Margaret Thatcher from office in the "palace coup" which bemused foreign observers. Outsiders failed to understand how a major governing party could so quickly dump the most successful leader it had produced since Winston Churchill. Certainly, the electorate often unceremoniously turfs successful leaders out of office – as Britons did with Churchill immediately after his amazing wartime performance. But British Conservatives had for years prided themselves on unity and loyalty and scorned Labor's fractious antics.

Major's dilemma is not the only irony. The dissent in his party has been spearheaded by the so-called Euroskeptics who have doggedly opposed his every move to integrate Britain into the European Union.

Major has undoubtedly put his enemies in a spot since none of his cabinet colleagues seem likely to oppose his renewed candidacy for the leadership in November. The alternative favorite, Trade Secretary Michael Heseltine, immediately announced he would support the prime minister, as did the foreign secretary, Douglas Hurd.

Major may indeed win reelection as leader, but the victory could be a classic Pyrrhic affair. The unedifying sight of a prime minister scrambling to regain a position he was forced to vacate is unlikely to endear either himself or his knife-wielding party members to thoroughly disillusioned voters. They must be wondering when their affairs will gain priority over the political cock-fight in Westminster.

'Just give me this week's bank charges...'



Hafez Assad's Lebanese card

MOSHE ZAK

THE Israeli and Syrian chiefs of staff will find their talks in Washington next week overshadowed by the latest events on the Lebanese border.

On the agenda are border security arrangements. But Amnon Lipkin-Shahak cannot overlook the Katyushas that have been falling on Galilee, and the IDF and South Lebanese casualties in the security zone, which are continuing despite the US-brokered security arrangement between Israel and Syria that followed Operation Accountability in 1993 and was supposed to prevent such occurrences.

Not only has that arrangement been a disappointment; in response to Israel's complaint in Washington after this week's events in the security zone, the state-owned *Tishrin* came out with a provocative statement that Syria has no intention of restraining Hizbullah activities against Israel. The paper forecast that the violence against Israel would increase until the IDF pulled out of Lebanon and the Golan.

The Syrians are allowing themselves to utter these threats and to give Hizbullah a free hand against Israel, on the assumption that Israel is so anxious for a quick settlement – within six or seven months according to Foreign Minister Peres – that it won't retaliate forcefully in Lebanon for fear of derailing the talks. This Syrian assumption has been strengthened by the prime minister's announcement that only a political settlement with Syria can promise calm on the Israeli-Lebanon border.

Assad interprets this kind of statement as an Israeli promise to curb its response to the provocations by Hizbullah and the Palestinian organizations active in southern Lebanon. He also supposes that Israel will swallow seven more months of Katyusha attacks both on Galilee and on Israel's allies in southern Lebanon, for the sake of the talks with Damascus.

The Syrians believe that this war of attrition in Lebanon will actually help them in the negotiations, not only as regards security arrangements, but also on the issue of strategic balance between Israel and Syria – one of the rabbits Assad is still keeping in his hat for the end of the negotiations.

The holes in the previous security arrangement on Lebanon warn against a nebulous arrangement now

Back at the time of Operation Accountability, some kind of balance did exist between Damascus and Jerusalem. Damascus used Hizbullah's Katyushas to put pressure on Israel by remote control, while Israel put pressure on Damascus via the Lebanese government, which was facing a wave of refugees that reached all the way to Beirut.

This equilibrium enabled Secretary Christopher to get Israel and Syria to agree on security arrangements according to which Syria undertook to prevent Hizbullah shelling settlements in Galilee in return for an Israeli commitment not to shell villages in Lebanon.

Israel might have got better terms, including protection of the civilians in the security zone. But Hafez Assad's nerves were stronger than the Israeli government's. Under the pressure of Katyushas, Israel agreed that the civilians living in the security zone wouldn't be part of the "non-shelling" agreement.

This left an open wound, dripping blood. Hizbullah attacks the Lebanese villages in the security zone; the South Lebanon Army under General Lahad tries to defend its people in the villages, which are the catchment area for its soldiers, and fires on the villages outside the security zone. Hizbullah attacks the SLA; the IDF protects the SLA. The Katyushas falling on Galilee are part of this vicious circle.

BEFORE LEAVING for Washington, Chief of Staff Shahak told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that Israel would not tolerate Hizbullah firing Katyushas on the security zone. He should repeat this warning to his Syrian counterpart, Hikmat Shihabi, making it quite clear that Israel cannot negotiate the Golan's future while under fire from Syria's Lebanese wing.

If Israel is in too much of a rush to achieve an agreement at any price, that price will be high, and the security arrangements will be shaky, just like the arrangement at the end of Operation Accountability.

- There is no need to announce the shelving of the talks with Syria. It is enough for the Syrians to know that the talks won't tie Israel's hands when the time comes for a sharp response to Hizbullah provocations.
- There is no need to ask Washington to step in to make Assad use his muscle to restrain Hizbullah.
- There is no need to fix a target date for the end of the negotiations. Creating the impression of an "end-of-season sale" will only strengthen Assad's bargaining power.

Assad is patient, and once the chiefs of staff have agreed on security arrangements, he will play his ace: trying to force Israel to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, to prove that he can score where Hosni Mubarak failed.

Assad has another dream: gaining a foothold on the shore of the Kinneret.

Forty-six years ago, then president of Syria Hosni Za'im suggested a meeting with Ben-Gurion for peace negotiations. Ben-Gurion rejected the suggestion, because it included recognizing Syria's right of partnership in the Kinneret.

Za'im soon fell from power. His successors later attempted to achieve the same end by establishing themselves on the banks of the Kinneret.

In the Six Day War Syria was forced back. Now Assad is trying once again to gain a foothold on the Kinneret shore.

The difficult negotiations on this question will probably last a long time. There is no reason for Israel to restrain itself along the Lebanon border out of fear of disrupting the peace process. The issue of restoring stability is urgent, and requires an immediate solution.

The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on current affairs.

A separate 'Russian' party is wrong

ARIEL SHARON

WE'VE recently heard about intentions to establish a "Russian" party or parties. The basic premise: Only a party of this sort can improve the situation of immigrants, and make aliya a top-priority issue. But it is a grave mistake.

I have great esteem for those who conceived the idea, for their abilities and their intentions.

But even if we put aside the notion of latent personal ambition here and there, and take it that it's all being done for purely idealistic reasons, the idea that a party of immigrants in the Knesset can make aliya and absorption a central issue in our lives is, at best, naive.

It isn't the absence of an immigrant party which is preventing aliya and immigrants receiving the attention they merit, but the existence of another goal the government has set itself: negotiations with Yasser Arafat and total withdrawal from the Golan.

For a different central national goal to be set, the government must be replaced – in the 1996 elections, at the latest. And anyone who wants to see aliya must act to have the government replaced.

If this government succeeds in what it is trying to do, it will push Israel back to the pre-1967 lines, which are indefensible borders.

The government prefers to focus on negotiations with Hafez Assad for total withdrawal from the Golan, something that will put the whole of northern Israel and 30 percent of Israel's already inadequate water sources in danger.

Instead of investing in aliya and Jewish education, the government transfers hundreds of millions of shekels to the Palestinian Authority. Moneys collected from Israeli industrial workers, Israeli taxpayers, are being handed over to Arafat. The government is even pressuring the US administration to grant Arafat hundreds of millions of dollars, and it is doing the same in Europe and Japan. It's hard to believe, but it's happening right before our eyes.

What immigrants should do instead is demand greater representation on the Likud's Knesset list

The prime minister went even further when, on his last visit to the US, he called upon the administration to grant massive financial aid not only to Jordan and Arafat, but to Syria, listed in the US as a state involved in terrorism.

This is doubly reprehensible because the government knows that Syrian intelligence is behind Hizbullah activity in Lebanon, which causes us casualties almost every day. The government also knows that moneys collected as taxes from every one of us and given to Arafat are used for purposes other than those intended.

JUST NOW there are reports in Israel and the US of documents attesting to the fact of millions of dollars being transferred to the private accounts of Arafat's mother-in-law, Raymonda Tawil, in France. Large sums are being used to purchase land and buildings in Jerusalem through Dr. Ahmed Tibi, Arafat's adviser and an Israeli citizen. This too is being illegally done through private accounts abroad.

Many millions of dollars are being used for political purposes, to encourage radical nationalistic elements among Israeli Arabs, and anti-Israeli activity. And millions of dollars have been transferred to private projects headed by Nabil Sha'ath's sons. In addition, the sum of $13m. has been transferred by Arafat to his followers in Lebanon.

What makes all this particularly grave is that the government knows about it, but continues to pressure for an increase in aid to Arafat.

If the Golan is evacuated, new early warning stations will have to be built, as well as alternative defense lines. Compensation will have to be paid to the thousands of Jewish residents whom the government will have to resettle. It will all come to billions of shekels. Even now there is a debate over the financing of the IDF redeployment in Judea and Samaria, and the "separation system" between Kfar Sava and Kalkilya, between Tulkarm and Netanya, between Ramallah and Bethlehem and Jerusalem.

One thing is clear: Money for the absorption of immigration this government will not have; means for expediting aliya will not be found.

But the possibility of replacing this failing leftist government depends mostly on one thing: the ability of the national camp to run in the next election as large bodies, and if possible, as one bloc. Splintering on the right will only ensure the perpetuation of the current government.

The left is interested in the formation of a Russian party. It has little chance of getting the votes of the Russian immigrants whom it deceived in the last elections. But by depriving the Likud of these votes, it can stay in power.

I know. People will say "Let's run separately, and after the elections we'll support the Likud." But the fact is that ever since Israel's establishment, governments have always been formed by the party which received the most seats in the Knesset.

This week we suffered a hard blow as a result of the departure of David Levy and his followers from the Likud. We must take more risks.

Instead of forming a "Russian party" of immigrants from the former Soviet Union, the immigrants should demand greater representation in the Likud Knesset list. This is what running separately is wrong.

The writer, a Likud MK, is a former defense minister.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DEATH ON THE ROADS

Sir, – With pudding, the proof is in the eating. With road injury prevention, it is the drop in the number of dead. Before Othniel Schneller, Head of the Road Safety Authority, was in his job, road death tolls in Israel dropped from over 700 in the mid '70s to under 400 in 1985. Since he has been in his job, the road toll has risen to nearly 600 dead. In the 12 months following the increase of the speed limit to 100 kph, the death toll rose from 487 to 556. Israel is the only Western country with a rise in the death toll and a failure to lower the death rate per 1000 in the last few years. Therefore Mr. Schneller and his superior Transport Minister Kessar have failed.

Professor Moshe Livneh of the Technion Department of Transportation Studies wanted the speed limit increased to 110 kph for our main highways, and 120 kph for highway no 6. If 100 kph was administrative murder, then 110 and 120 kph would be administrative massacre.

Why Schneller's half-baked and confused theories about the role of national culture and character in the rise of the death toll on the roads? His ministry's motivation is simple: blame you and me for the rise in death toll resulting from the reckless predictions and policies of his ministry and its incompetent academic consultants. I say those responsible for the rise in death toll in 1994 are those who promoted 100 kph speed limit, especially for trucks. This includes Judge Dov Levin, chairman of the National Council for the Prevention of Road Accidents.

Scientists the world over have verified that the relationship between raised speed limits and raised travel speeds and death tolls is as universal as that between cigarette smoking and lung cancer.

In Israel, travel speeds, not culture or national character changed for the worse some 5 to 10 percent last year because raised speed limits on some roads addict drivers to faster speeds on all roads. National character did not change 10 percent for the better during the big drop in the death toll in 1977-9, when the speed limit was lowered from 100 to 90 kph and travel speeds fell.

For years, Schneller has been squandering millions of dollars in attempting to change national character and culture with kitschy extravaganzas, wrecked vehicles on the roadsides, compulsory driver education for high-school students and other measures shown to be either worthless or dangerous. He has dragged his feet on roadside electronic monitoring, lower speed limits and governors for trucks, a compulsory bicycle helmet law, soft mid-line barriers, restoring the nighttime curfew for teenage drivers, and pedestrianization to protect the elderly and children in cities.

Yes, drivers who speed, tailgate and drink increase the risk of killing themselves and others, and new technologies can detect and deter them, yet Mr. Schneller together with Technion professors have stalled on the introduction of these technologies and say that raised speed limits are "inevitable."

My estimate is 100 to 200 lives per year have been the human cost to Israel of leaving Mr. Schneller in his job and Professor Livneh and his yes-men as Kessar's advisors. I believe we should repudiate transportation policies which kill, paralyze, maim and disable, and sack the minister, his hacks and experts, who promote these policies. Only then will we reach the goal: fewer than 200 dead by the year 2000.

DR. ELIHU RICHTER
Occupational and Environmental Medicine
Hebrew University – Hadassah School of Public Health and Community Medicine
Jerusalem.

BLEAK OUTLOOK FOR JERUSALEM

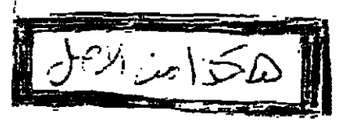
Sir, – In *The Jerusalem Post* of June 18 I was disturbed to read an ad taken out by a great number of eminent people recommending two capitals in Jerusalem.

I do not particularly want to analyze history and I know that in this short response I cannot address the issue in the in-depth manner of which it is deserving, but nonetheless I will mention a few facts. The Ottoman Turks, the Arabs and in recent years the Palestinians could have declared a capital in East Jerusalem and no one would have hindered them, but they did not do so. What they all did was to prevent many people from all faiths from visiting their holy sites.

None of the people who put their names under this call for a city of two capitals (and I went over the list carefully) have the experience of running a city. Think of what would happen if their suggestion were to be carried out (which I hope it never will). Two capitals would entail two police forces, two sets of laws, a customs line and various other dividing elements. The division of the city would follow naturally and in a very short time.

I feel sorry for the people who would have to live in the kind of city that the signatories desire and envision.

TEDDY KOLLEK
Jerusalem.



Unequal citizens

JON SIMONS

IBA news presenter Haim Yavin asked a very odd question of a representative of the Beduin community who was being interviewed following the recent death in action of two Beduin soldiers.

Why are you only remembered at times like these, he asked the Beduin, when the question should really have been directed at Yavin himself.

The Beduin, however, are not entirely forgotten at other times.

One group of Beduin has periodically been in the news recently because of its struggle against eviction from its land near Ma'aleh Adumim. The town is to be extended on to the land, in exchange for which the Beduin have been offered a site next to a garbage dump.

The Beduin settlement of Tel Sheva was also in the headlines when a truck from Gaza loaded with explosives was found there. Local involvement in the affair was minimal, but that did not prevent the rapid development of an image of Tel Sheva as a hotbed of Hamas terrorists.

One of the Beduin's problems is the type of attention they do receive. These three occasions serve well to illustrate their situation in this country.

The Beduin's loyalty to the state, demonstrated by their willingness to pay the ultimate cost of service in the IDF, is expected of every male citizen. Yet this community is also expected to accept the elimination of its way of life as a result of resettlement in townships with poor infrastructure and few services.

Moreover, their loyalty is something which has to be proven over and over again to a suspicious Jewish majority, which tends to regard them, like other Arab citizens, as potential enemies.

Given these circumstances, it is not surprising that a speech pro-

This week's focus on the Beduin brings an unresolved tension to the fore

testing government policy toward the community was made at the graveside of the two soldiers who died last Sunday. It is also tragic that the Beduin apparently do not expect to receive serious consideration until Beduin lives are lost.

Most appalling of all is that it seems unlikely that their legitimate claims will be recognized.

How many times have the Druse also raised their voices in similar circumstances, and been answered with declarations of good intent and plans that are only implemented after long delays, if ever?

BOTH THE Beduin and the Druse are minority groups who have proved their loyalty to the state. Yet they face much of the same discrimination as the rest of the Arabs.

Clearly, then, their unequal condition has nothing to do with them being unreliable citizens, and much to do with them being non-Jews and Arabs.

There is an unresolved tension between Israel as a state for all its citizens and Israel as a Jewish state.

In so far as Israel is characterized as a Jewish state, the Beduin, Druse, and all other Arabs will be treated as second-class citizens. A Jewish state would not serve their interests or foster their culture. At best, it would tolerate them on condition that they do not interfere with the goals of the Jewish majority.

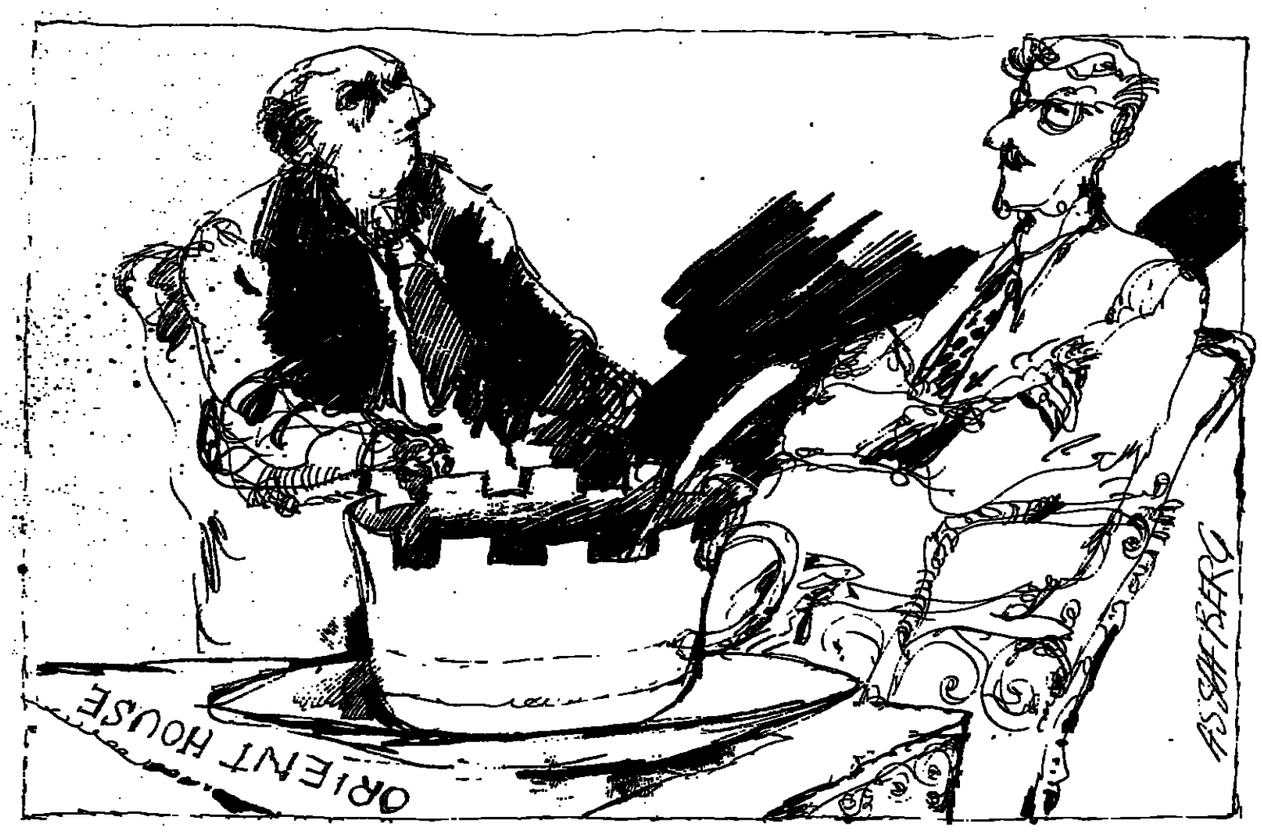
A state for all its citizens would either promote the aspirations of all its constituent communities equally, or would remain neutral, relating to its citizens as individuals and allowing different cultural groups to develop in their own way.

What we have now is a curious mixture, which gives clear preference to the Jewish majority, but guarantees formal rights for Arabs.

Perhaps the time has come for Jewish Israelis to stop asking the Beduin and other Arabs: Are you really loyal? Would you die for us?

The question we need to ask ourselves is whether we want to live in a liberal democratic state for all its citizens, or an exclusivist Jewish state.

The writer teaches political science at the Hebrew University.



A message as clear as mud

MARK L. LEVINSON

ACCORDING to vocalist Sinead O'Connor's publicity, the mildly wonky-looking Magen David on her latest album cover is not intentionally Jewish, just a venerable rune.

Some readers may remember that Boy George, also Irish, adopted a more forthright Semitic motif – but just as meaninglessly – in his days with the Culture Club band. Then video clips showed him sporting not only a Magen David, but also an attempt at an embroidered Hebrew rendering of "Culture Club" as *tarbut aguda*.

There seems to be a generation of Irish to whom we Jews, remote as we are, convey a certain quaintness.

Government figures grumble from time to time that the Jews of the world know less and less about Jewish culture. Well, naturally, the non-Jews know even less.

Yasser Arafat understands that public ignorance is a propaganda opportunity. On CNN's *Larry King Live* a couple of weeks ago, he remarked to Yitzhak Rabin that Rabin had been born officially a Palestinian. Counting on the world's unfamiliarity with how the label's meaning has changed, Arafat hoped to imply that, in Rabin's youth, before the Jews got uppity, they owed allegiance to some predecessor of the PLO.

Rabin was struck speechless, and Arafat was greatly amused.

A climate of ignorance has never been kind to the Jewish people. Our only defense against it is to state our case clearly, and take no prior knowledge or sympathy for granted.

And we had certainly better get a good, clear message across to the Irish, because next year is their turn at heading the European Union.

Peres really mishandled the latest violation at Orient House

UNFORTUNATELY, clarity is just what is missing. While our right-wing women were, in their own confusing symbolism, preparing to protest the Irish foreign minister's visit to Orient House this week by the wearing of the green, Shimon Peres was tying his tongue in knots.

In the words of a Foreign Ministry spokesman, he "indicated to the Irish government that Jerusalem is outside the agreements with the Palestinians, and that any discussion of the issues of the Palestinian Authority at Orient House borders on a violation of the agreement with us."

Borders, *shmorders*. Is it a violation or isn't it a violation?

Obviously, Peres was saying "We don't want you to do it, but if you go ahead anyway, then we reserve the right to say it was okay."

You can't blame the Irish for shrugging off a message like that.

And when they did shrug it off, Peres reacted with "the hope for enhanced cooperation in many areas between Ireland and Israel," to quote our Foreign Ministry spokesman again.

You can't blame the Palestinians for inviting the rest of the world to a kaffeeklatsch now.

About one thing Peres was right: We can't stop diplomats from entering Orient House to meet the Palestinians. On the other hand, if the government doesn't want the PA receiving such visitors there, the government can see to it that there's no PA there to visit.

It could stop whining and waffling, and start taking the necessary steps with due legal justification and warning, cutting off utilities and supplies if necessary.

The world does not appreciate our dilemmas, it appreciates forthrightness.

If, on the other hand, the government is willing to approve Orient House as a PA enclave, it should give its approval explicitly, and at least arrange to get something in return, such as formal recognition of the Jewish enclave at Beit Hadassah in Hebron.

I know that the Jewish Hebronites aren't our government's favorite people, but in a confused and ignorant world where Judea and Samaria are accepted as Palestine and Jerusalem is accepted as at least half-Arab, Hadassah is one of the few names left that carries a public image benignly and undisputedly Jewish.

The opinion-making world may not know exactly where Hebron is and what happened there, but as instinctively as it knows that anything named Orient House should belong to people who seem more "Oriental" than we Jews, it imagines that anything named Hadassah is somehow connected to those ladies who carry fashionable handbags, sell charity raffle tickets, and are Jewish.

The writer is a Herzliya-based freelancer.

Marriage blacklist: good and bad news

ALLAN E. SHAPIRO

RELIGIOUS Affairs Minister Shimon Shetreet's proposal to reform the administration of the ministry's marriage blacklist has produced both good news and bad news.

The best of the good news relates to the reduced size of the list, which now numbers some 3,800 individuals. The recent removal of 350 names from the list, after an examination by Sephardi Chief Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Doron, is comparatively insignificant. But since 1989, the list has been cut almost in half.

In that year, the administration of the marriage blacklist was the subject of a report by State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat. She reported that the list as initially examined by her office in October, 1989, included 8,379 names. There were duplications, however, such as women listed under their original names and their names after marriage, as well as names of deceased people. In December, 1989, the ministry reported that the list had been reduced to 6,130.

If the number is now down to 3,800, this is truly good news, taking into account that during the intervening years there has been mass immigration from the former Soviet Union, primarily nonobservant, with a significant number of mixed marriages. In fact, it is almost too good to be true.

Assuming that the figures are accurate, there may be a number of explanations. It might be too early for the halachic problems of the new immigrants to have come to the attention of the rabbinical bureaucracy. Or perhaps, like many native-born Israelis, the new immigrants have found non-halachic solutions.

The most upbeat explanation is that the rabbinate has been highly accommodating in its treatment of the newcomers. However, without a statistical breakdown of the decrease from 6,130 to 3,800 between 1989 and 1995, any explanation is entirely speculative.

The bad news relates to Shetreet's attempt to introduce procedural safeguards into the blacklisting procedure. He has agreed with the Chief Rabbinate that rabbinical court judgments will be the only basis for new listings. However, it was a rabbinical court judgment that put the blacklist on the public agenda in the first place.

That was the case of the anonymous brother and sister, who in the late 1960s were placed on the blacklist by a rabbinical court judgment which determined that they had been born before their mother's divorce from her previous husband had been finalized. Moshe Dayan championed their cause, and the matter became a hot public issue.

In 1972, chief rabbi Shlomo Goren pulled the chestnuts out of the fire with a highly controversial rabbinic judgment that, in effect, invalidated the mother's first marriage.

IN 1976, in the aftermath of the affair of the brother and sister, then attorney-general Aharon Barak published guidelines for the administration of the marriage blacklist. He insisted on procedural safeguards, such as the need for firm evidence, the right to a fair hearing, and protection of privacy. In her 1989 report, the state comptroller found that these requirements were not being adhered to.

The fact that Shetreet has again proposed procedural safeguards indicates that neither the attorney-general's guidelines nor the state comptroller's report have solved the problem.

Ben-Porat concluded that "people were listed for whom the matter of the prohibition on marriage was determined in a judicial procedure in which they did not take part, among them children."

She intensively examined a representative sample of 305 cases. In this way, she was able to turn up a number of cases of children on the list below marriageable age (11 out of the sample of 305) who were born out of prohibited relationships, as well as children whose parents had been involved in rabbinical litigation that left in doubt whether or not they were Jewish.

In 1989, Ben-Porat was, at least, able to examine the list. Shetreet, in contrast, had to retreat from his rather modest proposal that a committee of jurists examine the list. Hence, it is impossible to determine objectively whether the procedural safeguards in the attorney-general's guidelines are being observed, and whether the situation has improved since the Ben-Porat report.

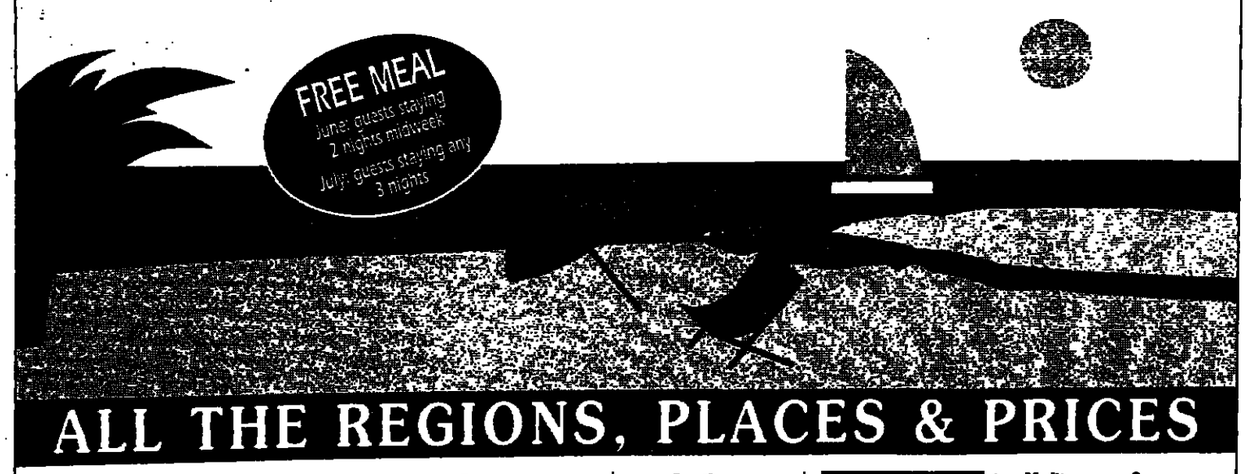
Even the number of 3,800 on the marriage blacklist must be accepted on faith, without corroboration.

Marriage abroad has long been the favorite method for Israelis to escape rabbinical prohibitions. Supreme Court Justice Haim Cohn went to New York to marry a divorcee. Matrimony in Cyprus, years ago, used to be called "marriage by Rabbi Makarios," then Greek Orthodox archbishop and political ruler of Cyprus.

Shetreet's only innovation is in proposing to make this option available at the expense of the state. What could be more reasonable? Who caused the problem in the first place?

The writer is a legal and political commentator.

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As a result of Maestro Riccardo Muti's sudden notice of cancellation, the IPO has rescheduled performances of this work under the baton of Maestro Zubin Mehta on the following new dates:

Jerusalem: Sunday, July 9th at 8:30 p.m. (instead of June 27)
Series A Tel-Aviv: Monday, July 10th at 8:30 p.m. (instead of June 26)
Series B Tel-Aviv: Tuesday, July 11th at 8:30 p.m. (instead of June 28)
Series C Tel-Aviv: Wednesday, July 12th at 8:30 p.m. (instead of June 29)

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Peace accord may spell end of Chechen war

GROZNY (AP) – Chechen and Russian negotiators yesterday hailed their agreement on disarmament and troop withdrawals as a breakthrough that might end the six-month war.

"Brothers and sisters, listen, we don't want war," Aslan Maskhadov, the Chechen commander, told a rally in central Grozny.

"From the first day we wanted to stop this conflict," the gray-haired Maskhadov said, speaking from the top of a jeep surrounded by his heavily armed guards.

In Moscow, one day after lawmakers declared no confidence in his government, a combative President Boris Yeltsin said yesterday he would rather disband parliament than sacrifice his Cabinet.

His government, under fire for its handling of the hostage crisis in southern Russia, then unanimously decided to provoke a major showdown with lawmakers by introducing another no-confidence vote within 10 days. That would force parliament to either back down or face dismissal.

In effect, the government is daring the State Duma, the lower house of parliament, to pass another no-confidence motion. If lawmakers approve it, Yeltsin can dissolve parliament and set new elections.

"As a result of the second discussion, the Duma may sign its own death sentence," Yeltsin told reporters. "If the Duma doesn't want to be dissolved, it's OK. But it shouldn't even try to topple the government."

The Chechen peace talks came after a group of rebels stormed a city in southern Russia and seized some 2,000 hostages. They escaped into the hills after winning Russian concessions and releasing their hostages.

Gathered around Maskhadov yesterday, Chechen women in brightly colored scarves and a few men shouted: "Chechnya, Chechnya!" and "Independence, independence!"

Many people doubted the pact or the cease-fire would hold.

"Dudayev will never lay down weapons. And Russians aren't going to stop what they started," said a Chechen woman selling in the ruins of a shop destroyed in the fighting last winter. "We've had enough of war, but these talks are a waste of time."



British Prime Minister John Major announces his resignation as Conservative leader to a London press conference yesterday.(AP)

Major resigns as leader of Conservative Party

News agencies

LONDON

BRITISH Prime Minister John Major yesterday resigned as leader of the Conservative party and said he would fight an election for the leadership.

"In short, it is time to put up or shut up," Major said in a challenge to small but persistent group of opponents within his party.

He did not resign as prime minister, but said he would do so if he lost the party leadership election.

Major, in a brief statement to a hastily called news conference in the garden of his Downing Street office, said he had taken his decision to stop a minority of ruling Conservatives undermining the government and his party.

Major said he was not prepared to see the party "on the rack".

"I have been in politics since I was 16, I see public service as a duty," Major said.

Speculation has been swirling about a possible leadership election after rows in his party over Europe. But the rumors put it in November when the party traditionally holds its annual leadership contest. Major's move preempts that challenge.

"I believe it is in no one's interest that this continues right through to November. It undermines the government and it damages the Conservative party," Major said.

No date for the leaection was announced, and it was unclear whether anyone would step forward to battle Major.

The announcement by Major, 52, followed increasing opposition and insults from right-wing rebels within the party opposed to Britain's closer intergration with the European Union.

Recently Major also endured fresh sniping from Margaret Thatcher, the leader he replaced five years ago.

Major, whose poll ratings are the lowest of any prime minister in history, is now down to personal support of less than 30 percent – and the party's ratings are even lower.

For the past three years, Major said, "there have been repeated threats of a leadership election. In each year, they turned out to be phony threats.

"Now the same thing is happning again in 1995."

It had earlier become obvious that a senior cabinet minister's plea to the Conservative Party to rally round the prime minister had backfired yesterday, sparking renewed attacks on his leadership and blunt predictions of his downfall.

The unprecedented appeal came in a letter to *The Times* newspaper by Sir Patrick Mayhew, Northern Ireland Secretary, who warned Conservative colleagues that the attacks on Major from within his party jeopardised peace talks in Northern Ireland.

"Much damage has already been done, but it can still be repaired. Any more of this commotion against the prime minister, however, and that may cease to be the case," Mayhew said.

Major's Downing Street office said it had not been aware of the letter before it was published.

Instead of rallying members of Parliament behind the beleaguered Major, however, Mayhew's plea deepened his plight.

"Sir Patrick's letter is in danger of making the prime minister look like the leaning tower of Pisa being propped up by one of his close associates," Teresa Gorman, a leading anti-European MP in the party, told the BBC.

The attacks on Major crown a week that has seen him embarrassed by a u-turn by Shell UK on the Atlantic burial of a North Sea oil rig after the prime minister had given his repeated, personal backing for deep-sea sinking.

Speculation about Major's downfall reached fever pitch after his failure to silence rebellious MPs angered at his refusal to take a tougher line on Europe.

No clue to Japan hijacking motive

HAKODATE (Reuter) – A relieved Japan struggled without success yesterday to make sense of why a middle-aged "salaryman" inflicted a hijack ordeal on a nation already shaken by a series of disasters.

Fumio Kutsumi, 53, a systems employee of Toyo Trust & Banking in Tokyo, was captured after a brief scuffle shortly before dawn nearly 16 hours after he hijacked an All Nippon Airways jumbo jet on a flight to northern Japan.

Kutsumi had been on sick leave since last October due to a nervous disorder and asthma. Contrary to his earlier claims, he turned out to have no links to the doomsday cult that is alleged to have unleashed poison gas on the Tokyo subway system in March.

The hijacker had threatened to blow up the plane with plastic explosives and to kill passengers with sarin nerve gas. But no explosives or sarin were found on the plane.

In the end, Kutsumi only wanted the plane refuelled so he could be flown from this picturesque port city on the island of Hokkaido back to Tokyo.

But authorities were hard-put to explain how Kutsumi was able to take a sharp instrument through security checks onto ANA Flight 857 and hold 364 people hostage.

And after two interrogation sessions yesterday, they were still no closer to understanding his motives. He apologized as soon as he was arrested but would not tell police why he had commandeered the plane.

"The hijacker is exhausted and wasn't talking very much," Ichibei Yachinaka, deputy chief of the Hakodate police force told a news conference.

Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama told a news conference later the government had taken adequate steps to handle the crisis.

Gas kills nine people in French WWII cave

ROUEN (Reuter) – Nine people died during a teenagers' outing in a cave in northern France used by German troops in World War Two to conceal V1 "doodlebug" rockets, rescue workers said yesterday.

The dead included three teenagers, the father of one of them and five members of the team that went to look for them.

The nine were apparently killed by a high concentration of carbon monoxide gas in the tunnels, outside the village of Buchy near the northern river Seine port of Rouen. The lethal gas may have been created by a fire lit by the teenagers.

The cave was used during the war to hide some of the V1 rockets that German forces fired at Britain across the Channel. The rudimentary rockets, packing big explosive charges, flew until they ran out of fuel and plunged to earth.

The alarm was raised late when the father of the brothers went looking for them and failed to return.

A search turned into another tragedy.

A fire brigade medical captain and a villager were overcome by fumes and died. Three other fire brigade members were brought out ill before the search was suspended to blow the lethal gas out of the galleries throughout the night.

Another rescue squad, equipped with breathing apparatus and helped by expert cave explorers, went in yesterday morning.

Rapid action force arrives in Sarajevo

SARAJEVO (Reuter) – Hundreds of French troops arrived yesterday to bolster the UN mission after its top officials promised the Bosnian Serbs the heavily armed reinforcements would not confront them head on.

A shell hit a crowd of people waiting for water at a communal tap in Sarajevo, killing at least two people, as Bosnian Serbs kept up their pressure on the capital.

The Bosnian government said Serb shelling of Sarajevo was taking a heavy toll, killing 12 people on Wednesday and injuring more than 40. One of yesterday's casualties was a girl younger than three years of age, witnesses said.

With most water supplies cut by Serbs, crowds of people waiting to fill canisters are an easy target for mortar rounds. Nine people died in a similar attack Sunday.

Civilian casualties have risen steadily in recent months with shelling increasing after last weeks's fierce government assaults to try to ease the Serb siege.

The European Union's new peace envoy, Carl Bildt, left former Yugoslavia after his first fact-finding mission. He told reporters after meeting Serbia's President Slobodan Milosevic that he would tell EU leaders at the Cannes summit next week how he foresees restarting the peace process.

"We are at a critical time, we don't have that much time available in order to seek a political solution," he said.

UN officials at Balkan peacekeeping headquarters in Zagreb confirmed that special envoy Yasushi Akashi had written to Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic about the role of 10,000 extra troops being sent to bolster the UN mission.

The forces, mainly British and French, were despatched to protect peacekeepers against being taken hostage – nearly 400 were seized by Bosnian Serbs after NATO air strikes in May – and to assist the UN aid mission.

But how the helicopters, big guns and heavy armor of the rapid reaction force will be used is still being debated.

There are signs the force will do little more than defend UN units from attack and will not try to resolve the UN mission's chronic dilemma of needing consent from the warring parties for the delivery of aid, diplomats said.

The New York Times said Akashi's letter had reassured the Bosnian Serbs, who have placed the most obstructions in the way of the UN mission, that the new troops would not operate differently from other peacekeepers.

Western officials said the letter was intended to assuage Bosnian Serb concerns the new troops might blast their way through obstructions erected to prevent aid being delivered.

Michael Jackson agrees to change song's lyrics

LOS ANGELES (Reuter) – Pop star Michael Jackson, bowing to criticism about the lyrics of his new song, has agreed to replace the lines "Jew me, sue me" and "kick me, kike me" with less offensive words, according to a report in yesterday's *Daily Variety*.

Veteran Hollywood columnist Army Archerd, who took Jackson to task earlier this week for using the racially-charged words, said Jackson called him to tell him he plans to return to the studio and record a new version of the song "They Don't Care About Us."

Archerd said Jackson told him the substitute words will be "strike me" for "kike me" and "do me" for "Jew me."

The move comes two days after Jackson's newest album *HIStory: Past, Present and Future Book 1*, went on sale in record stores nationwide.

Iran, EU closer to blunting Rushdie sentence

PARIS (Reuter) – Iran and the European Union moved closer yesterday to an agreement on an EU plan to blunt a death order against British writer Salman Rushdie, but differences remain, sources close to the talks said.

Iranian officials, meeting EU representatives in the French capital, said they were open to an agreement proposed by the EU and endorsed by the Group of Seven industrialised nations at last week's summit in Halifax, Canada, the sources said.

But they made clear they were powerless to lift the 1989 religious death sentence passed on Rushdie for blaspheming against Islam in his novel *The Satanic Verses*.

"The Iranians want to come along to a settlement along the lines set out in Halifax, but they can't lift the fatwa," one said.

"The divergence is now more over the form of an agreement – who says what, and how," the source said.

The Joint Commission on the American Promenade in Israel mourns the passing of the Founding Father for the State of Michigan in the American Promenade

LOUIS BERRY ל"ז

and extends sincere condolences to his wife, Vivian, and children, Harold and Barbara Berry and Selma and Jack Snider Schwartz, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres
Senator Arlen Spector
Senator Orrin G. Hatch
Dr. Ra'anan Cohen, M.K.
Gen. (Res.) Uzi Narkiss

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The Honorary Officers, Directors and Staff of the Joint Israel Appeal of Great Britain and Ireland extend sincere condolences to son Poju, daughter Rebecka and all the family on the passing of

POLA ZABLUDOWICZ ל"ז

The burial of

SHIRLEY MARKS STEINBERG-ZIMBERG

of Cape Town, Toronto, Detroit
widow of the late Rabbi Sheldon Steinberg ז"ל
will be held on June 27, at approximately 7:30 p.m., in the Y.U. Section of Eretz Hachaim Cemetery, Shimshon Junction, Beit Shemesh.

The unveiling will take place the following week.

For details, phone Barbara Guez, 02-6518612 from 8:30 p.m., or Joseph Fridman, 02-9973881.

The re-interment of the late

Rabbanit CHAYA LEA WERNER

of Johannesburg
will take place on Sunday, June 25, 1995
at the Eretz Hachaim Cemetery (near Shimshon Junction, Beit Shemesh).
We will meet at the entrance at 8:45 a.m.

On the first anniversary of the death of my beloved husband

DAVID FRANK

a memorial service will be held at Nes Harim Cemetery on Tuesday, June 27, at 5 p.m.

Barbara Grancell-Frank

The setting of the tombstones in the memory of the late

ISAAC AND ETHEL ROSIN

of Glasgow, Scotland, will take place at the Har Hamenuhot Cemetery, Jerusalem, on Tuesday, June 27, 1995, at 5:30 p.m.

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Part two of Gaza/Jericho First: A ministate

Sarid and Peres are said to favor a Palestinian ministate in Gaza and Jericho, Steve Rodan reports



YOSSI Sarid munches on a salad as he welcomes Palestinian journalists to a briefing on the future of the territories.

"Eat," he says. "Help yourselves."

The environment minister stops chewing as he describes how the Labor-led government views IDF redeployment in Judea and Samaria. He pledges an agreement will be reached no later than a few days after the July 1 deadline.

The first step will be an IDF withdrawal from more than three cities in the territories, followed by Palestinian elections and a second withdrawal. Finally, within months, a Palestinian state will emerge.

The Palestinian guests appear skeptical, however, even as Sarid becomes more enthusiastic.

"This will be the most dramatic development in our history of our bilateral relations," he says. "Please share my optimism."

Sarid's conception, expressed at his June 5 meeting with Palestinian reporters, is not only meant to assuage the Palestinians, government sources say.

Sarid – a key player in the current negotiations with the Palestinians – and other senior officials are working on charting the government's course after Palestinian elections.

Several government sources say the aim is to allow for Palestinian sovereignty in at least part of the territories before the Israeli elections, scheduled for November 1996.

As these sources view it, the status of Gaza and Jericho will advance to the level of a mini-Palestinian state; the rest of the territories will still have an Israeli presence.

The goal, the sources say, is to complete the foundations of some sort of Palestinian state should the Likud, which opposes the PLO-Israel accord, be swept into power.

"The optimistic scenario is that by the time of [the Israeli] elections, there will be a situation of sovereignty minus in most of the West Bank," says MK Dedi Zucker of Meretz, who is regarded as close to Sarid.

WITH ONLY a week left to July 1, officials are raising various ideas about the government's approach on the Palestinian negotiating track.

Some, particularly Prime Minister Rabin, favor a drawn-out IDF redeployment that will not affect areas they want to retain in a final settlement, such as Gush Etzion, the Jewish suburbs of Jerusalem and the Jordan Valley.

Sarid and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres are said to be urging a bolder approach.

The most detailed course presented to Peres and senior government planners has come from a US professor, Jerome Segal. Segal is head of the Washington-based Peace Forum and is close to PLO chairman Yasser Arafat and to Meretz leaders.

In 1988, in the first year of the uprising in the territories, he helped Arafat draft the so-called Palestinian declaration of independence.

Segal says he first presented his plan to Israel's ambassador to Washington, Itamar Rabinovich, who urged him to meet with government leaders. "He said it was an interesting idea whose time has not yet come," Segal says.

The professor arrived in Israel in late March and within hours met with senior Foreign Ministry officials – Joel Singer, the ministry's legal adviser, and deputy director-general Eitan Bentsur. Later, he discussed his plan with Peres.

Segal says his plan is a continuation of the 1993 Gaza/Jericho First accord for Palestinian self-rule.

As he sees it, Israel should offer the PLO sovereignty in Gaza and Jericho immediately after Palestinian elections, planned for the end of the year. The rest of Judea and Samaria would have the current status of Gaza, which is something just short of sovereignty, while allowing for Jewish settlements.

Israel would agree to having the new Palestinian ministate recognized by the United Nations, Segal says. The two countries would then sign a peace treaty that would regulate Jewish settlements in the territories.

The aim of the proposal is twofold. A Palestinian ministate within the next year, he says, would alleviate the pressure on Arafat to immediately enter into negotiations with Israel on such seemingly intractable issues as the future of Jerusalem and the Palestinian right of return.

Under the Declaration of Principles, final-status talks are to begin in May 1996 and end three years later.

In the short term, a Palestinian state would undermine the Likud's threat to torpedo the Rabin government's accord with the Palestinians.

"The starting point for this is that there is a 50-50 chance that the Likud will win the election," Segal says. "What would happen then? There would be renewed settlement, which will lead to a new intifada, more violence and bloodshed. It might not be the PLO which does this. It could be Hamas.

"What could head this off?" Segal asks. "A Palestinian state with a formal treaty with Israel to regulate settlements. Then many in the Likud would see this [Palestinian state] as a given. Many of them would say that if a Palestinian state of Gaza and Jericho is the final status, we could live with it. So the last thing they would want to do is ruin it with more settlements that would upset the apple cart."

Segal says Peres and his aides listened closely to the proposal. He recalls the foreign minister as being "noncommittal. He said, 'Go to Arafat and see if he is interested.'"

Arafat was Segal's next stop, but the PLO chief did not seem excited about the idea. Segal recalls Arafat responding that a senior Israeli official – government sources say it was Peres – had several weeks earlier proposed a Palestinian state immediately in Gaza instead of IDF redeployment in Judea and Samaria.

"He [Arafat] is caught up in the July 1 deadline," Segal says. "His focus is on the short term. He said maybe this is a possibility after Israeli army withdrawal and Palestinian elections."

AT HIS meeting with Palestinian journalists, Sarid calls for questions. To his surprise, most of them concern Israel's negotiations with Syria.

The minister returns to the Palestinian track and starts by reestablishing his credentials.

"If you are observing very closely the statements of the prime minister and the foreign minister," he says, "you will find that my opinions are not very far from Mr. Peres's opinions."

Sarid says Israel has been liberal with the Palestinian Authority. The Rabin government has allowed Arafat to conduct diplomacy in violation of the DOP.

THE JERUSALEM Post has learned that Palestinian passports, which have already been recognized by several countries, are being produced by a computer company located near Haifa. The cover is dark green; the paper is from Germany.

"We are not observing very closely his steps," Sarid says. "Security, security is the main issue on the agenda. Security is the No. 1 and the only serious issue on the agenda."

Sarid ends his pep talk to the Palestinian journalists with a pledge.

"We will fulfill the obligations to ourselves, to our neighbors, to the world," he says. "We will reach the comprehensive peace. Now I will join you by eating."

The minister raises his glass in a toast. A Palestinian editor suggests they drink to the Israeli and Palestinian states.

Sarid agrees. "Let's raise our glasses to the Palestinian state that will be established sooner than expected," he says. "*Lehaim!*"

An unmentionable for Palestinian voters

A Foreign Ministry document released by Likud MK Dan Meridor dated May 7 describes a negotiating session two days earlier in Tel Aviv between an Israeli delegation led by Joel Singer, the Foreign Ministry's legal adviser, and a Palestinian team headed by Saeb Erekat.

The issue was Palestinian voter registration for a governing council. A Palestinian delegate, Andrew Elias, said the PA would not register voters according to the Israeli population census or submit the names in a computer data bank.

"After the meeting, the Foreign Ministry document says, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres arrived and raised the issue of voter registration in eastern Jerusalem. Peres said the registration of voters must be done under the auspices of the Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics, because the entire city is part of the State of Israel.

"Peres added that the Palestinians must request the Israeli bureau to conduct the registration for them," the document says. "He stressed that, for his part, there is no reason why the work can't actually be done by the registrars, Palestinian teachers in Jerusalem, and that the form used to interview the eastern Jerusalem residents should not have to carry the letterhead of the Israeli Bureau of Statistics, meaning a form without letterhead."

Erekat, the document says, responded that Palestinians would find it difficult to have an Israeli body intervene in their elections.

"Peres responded that he doesn't care that the accord [on Palestinian elections] will not mention that the Israeli Bureau of Statistics is involved. All that Peres is asking is that if there is a question raised in the Knesset on the issue, Peres can answer that the registration is being conducted under the auspices of the Israeli bureau."

At that point, Peres left, asking Erekat and Singer to continue their discussion to reach an agreement based on the foreign minister's proposal.

"When Peres left, Erekat seemed completely confused," the document says, "and asked over and over whether Peres really intends that the registration be conducted by Palestinians themselves, and despite this Peres would tell the Knesset that it is being done under the auspices of the Israeli bureau."

For his part, Peres says he was misunderstood by the author of the Foreign Ministry document, Daniel Taub, an aide to Singer. *S.R.*

Palestinians look for ways to plant a homegrown democracy

Groups in the territories are struggling to define a democratic society and how to nurture a concept that is fuzzy to them, Jon Immanuel reports

WHEN Dr. Haidar Abd-el-Shafi, who was chief Palestinian negotiator at the 1991 Madrid peace talks, unveiled his "Movement for Building Democracy" two weeks ago in Jerusalem, he pointed to one thing he thought distinguished it from other Palestinian groups dissatisfied with the Oslo accords: its emphasis on law and democracy.

While the other movements also consider themselves bastions of law and democracy, the only apparently new thing about Shafi's group is its assumption that Palestinians will respond to a political movement whose main aim is "the dissemination of democratic culture in Palestinian society."

The problem is, how do you disseminate democracy in a society with no democratic tradition?

"Polls show that the vast majority of Palestinians are pro-democracy. But they are extremely fuzzy about what this means," says Ranjit Singh, program officer of the National Democratic Institute (funded by USAID, a US government agency), which has held democracy workshops around the world and now does so in Palestinian towns.

For political reasons, the American-based democracy advocates cannot discuss the issue of Islam and democracy. But nor can they ignore it. Hamas largely boycotts the NDI's meetings and sometimes discourages others from attending.

But the NDI, with its worldwide contacts, can find other Islamic interlocutors. "People were particularly interested in the Bangladeshi model. An Islamic opposition figure from the Awami League who spent 12 years in prison came and talked of the need for nonviolence and a free press," says Singh.

The Palestinian Center for Democracy and Elections (PCDE), under the auspices of Mubarak Awad's Center for the Study of Non-Violence, does address the Islamic issue, and its meetings include Hamas supporters.

"Some people see democracy as conflicting with Islam," notes Lucy Nusseibeh, its director. In fact, town meetings organized by the PCDE produced "heated discussion, particularly around the questions of the *Shoora* [Islamic consensus] tradition versus democracy, and the question of women's rights."

"People are worried by anything Western. We tell them democracy is not just a Western expression. It is a social and political term, which like aspirin can come in many different names," says PCDE's civic program assistant Hazem Qutteneh, who is a journalist.

The Palestinians present a different kind of challenge than other emerging political systems. "What is rare here is the degree of politicization in Palestinian society. We sent two young women to Peru. They came back and said how apathetic Peruvians were to politics."

In another case the NDI sent Palestinian observers to Namibia. They returned impressed by the efficiency of the elections but also by the fear of small-party candidates faced with the prospect of an 80 percent landslide by the largest party, SWAPO, which could then change the constitution to suit itself.

In talks with groups like the NDI, the PCDE, the Washington-based International Federation for Electoral Systems (IFES) and the Palestinian Center for Peace and Democracy (PCPD), it emerged that the main problem is that Palestinians do not know "how to address an elected government" – whether through letters to representatives, citizens' pressure groups, radio talk shows or other means.

THE INTIFADA, spontaneous expression of popular attitudes as it may have been, created problems for the Arabs too. "The older generation is concerned that the younger generation may be ungovernable," says Singh. Another problem, he says, is that the intifada left a large gap in the education of many people now of voting age for whom throwing stones was considered an act of political participation. Yet the intifada is seen by many as the quintessence of democracy because it was "the representation of the will of the people."

Democracy as protest is a strong component of Palestinian political thought.

IFES's Marwan Burgan once asked a 15-year-old what he would do if the local political candidate was a crook. "I would go out and demonstrate," he said. This was the wrong answer. The correct answer would have been, "I would go out and canvass for another candidate to oppose him." Protest is nevertheless self-expression and an important component of democracy. The key is to channel it.

Democracy is not the preserve of those who protest the Oslo accords. The Bethlehem-based National Democratic Coalition was founded by former supporters of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. Recognizing that the Oslo accord is an established fact, the NDC decided the goal should be to improve it through democratic means, not protest it through violence.

The role of women, as Islamic and social traditions reassert themselves, is pivotal. Religious women, often considered passive, are potentially key agents for change, arguing in town meetings that social traditions and Islam are not the same things and that the former are responsible for keeping women back.

The NDI trawls traditional society for examples of democratic processes. *Diwan* council elections, in which all the men from the clan vote, are democratic in some ways, but exclude women. "Women say 'I should vote,' men say 'I would accept that, but I'm not sure my friends would,'" Singh says, noting that the men have more reservations about changing the tradition than women.

But change is not impossible.

Singh, who spent four years in Bahrain, Syria, Egypt and Jordan, says: "I have never seen an Arab people as sophisticated about politics as the Palestinians, particularly their ability to discriminate between different sources of information."

Israel has contributed to this in both negative and positive ways. It is difficult not to become politically aware under a prolonged military occupation. But since Palestinians recognize that Israel is "a democracy for Israelis," they are not entirely negative in their view of the country's political system, especially its proportional representation.

But this recognition does not extend to inviting Jewish Knesset members to address Palestinian meetings. "I think people would not come if we brought Jewish Knesset members," says Nusseibeh. But until recently it would have been "unheard of" to invite someone like Ibrahim Lughod, the vice-rector of Bir Zeit University, who grew up and taught politics in America, to speak in a conservative market town like Dhahiriya (south of Hebron), says Qutteneh. The PCDE has frequently invited Arab Knesset members to speak.

"Israeli political culture is more influential than most Palestinians will readily admit," says Singh. "When I moderate a discussion of 100 in Gaza city, the Israeli experience almost never comes up in public, but afterwards they come up and talk about it."

The most hopeful aspect, says Qutteneh, is that at the meetings held by the PCDE, people practice a fundamental aspect of democracy. "They are able to listen to others. People are skeptical about the situation. But they are not so violent when they discuss the issues. After talking about democracy, people see a different reality."

This is the second of two articles on the Palestinian debate over elections and democracy. The first appeared last Friday.

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Military politics of the heart

Uri Saguy is the latest ambitious general to fall through the revolving trapdoor to retirement, Alon Pinkas reports





The relationship between ex-Intelligence chief Uri Saguy (l) and Chief of Staff Amnon Shahak is described by a former colleague as going "from friendship to coolness to mutual suspicion to competition and then outright hostility." (Rubinger: Hendler)

"THERE is someone at the General Staff who is heartless, but I take things to heart," IDF Intelligence chief Maj.-Gen. Uri Saguy said bitterly on Monday as he left Prime Minister and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin's office, where he had just asked to be relieved of his duties immediately.

"I, too, have a heart and I, too, take matters to heart," Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak responded a day later, visibly dismayed by the affair's unexpected escalation.

"It seems we need to appoint a cardiologist to the General Staff," Manpower Branch chief Maj.-Gen. Yoram Yair quipped.

Of course the exchange had nothing to do with cardiology, but with the culture of retirement from the IDF, in which power politics, competition for promotions and personal animosities play central roles, and the press is cast as the medium for dismissal notices.

Saguy wanted to replace Lt.-Gen. (res.) Ehud Barak as chief of staff. But Rabin all but anointed Shahak in May 1994 when he put him in charge of the delegation to the Cairo talks with the Palestinians. Those talks led to the final Gaza and Jericho pact. The official nomination as the next CGS followed in November.

A disappointed Saguy was perhaps contemplating the advantages of being deputy chief of staff, a good spot for improving his chances of succeeding Shahak. Then, in December, he learned that the chief of staff-designate had chosen Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilna'i to be his second-in-command.

Saguy's relations with Shahak have been strained for several years with short intermissions. Their working relationship through the years is characterized by a former colleague as going through "steady deterioration, from friendship to coolness to mutual suspicion to competition and then outright hostility."

After Shahak's appointment Saguy was asked by Rabin to remain for several months as IDF Intelligence chief, because the talks with Syria were at a critical juncture and the sides were on the verge of making progress. Saguy agreed, because Rabin said he could be appointed head of the Mossad. The current Mossad chief's seven-year tenure was to end by early 1995. It has since been extended, but Saguy may still get the prestigious job.

Shahak wasn't happy with the idea of keeping Saguy on at Intelligence, but accepted the decision, said one major-general, as long as it was clear that the extension was temporary.

How temporary was a moot point. In May, the IDF Spokesman's Office released a statement saying Saguy would retire by July 12. Saguy was furious, saying he had not been consulted and questioning the spokesman's credibility.

Saguy told Rabin that he should remain at Intelligence at least until after Shahak's meeting with his Syrian counterpart, Gen. Hikmet Shihabi. Saguy, after all, knows more than anyone in the country about Shihabi, and it was only logical that he be part of the preparations for the meeting. An extension was granted until August 13, and a reluctant Shahak now had to contend with Saguy on the doorstep of the talks.

"Saguy knew several months ago that I wanted to set a date for his retirement," Shahak said on Tuesday. "The first time we discussed it was before I entered office as CGS, and that was before the affair became public knowledge. Saguy served 12 years as a major-general, of which four were as chief of the Intelligence Branch. After this tenure, I think he can be replaced, especially since his reasons for staying had to do with matters unrelated to the Intelligence Branch."

What finally triggered Saguy's resignation was Shahak's decision not to include him in preparatory discussions the IDF was holding before the Israeli and Syrian military chiefs' meeting in Washington. Shahak was also opposed to Saguy's participation in the delegation.

"Shahak thought, what's the point? The man is leaving in August and is already indignant," the anonymous major-general said.

A Rabin aide stresses that Rabin probably would have ordered the CGS to include Saguy in the talks, by virtue of his role as intelligence chief. But under those circumstances, Saguy might have refused to cooperate with Shahak at the talks.

Shahak meanwhile notified Rabin that the major-general who will accompany him and later conduct the talks with the Syrian generals will be the prime minister's military secretary and confidant, Maj.-Gen. Dani Yatom, who will possibly be joined by Planning Branch head Maj.-Gen. Uzi Dayan. A brigadier-general from the Planning Branch, Yossi Stauber, will also accompany Shahak from the beginning.

The talks begin Tuesday; the Israeli delegation leaves for Washington Saturday night.

Saguy read about Shahak's decision in the papers and demanded to see Rabin.

"Saguy was furious," Rabin's aide said; Saguy considered the decision to leave him out of the talks "outrageous." Rabin confirmed the report for Saguy, and the intelligence chief asked to be relieved of his duties immediately, the aide said.

"Ultimately, this is really not about the talks and not about Shahak and Saguy not being the best of friends. It is about the culture of retirement in the IDF which is, to put it mildly, uncivilized," the major-general said.

"Rabin is also the defense minister," the officer continued. "He could have and should have prevented the escalation of events by summoning Saguy in November and telling him that Shahak was appointed CGS and that, in the best of spirits he, Saguy, following an illustrious 35-year career, should now decide on a retirement date. Plain and simple."

A non-illustrious end to a sterling career

URI Saguy did what an IDF Intelligence chief is supposed to do: provide accurate, impartial assessments of Israel's adversaries and developments in the entire region.

This he did successfully, working with equal dexterity under Likud- and Labor-led governments. His tenure might have been considered sterling, had it not been for the indelicate way his military career ended. That may tarnish his image for a long time to come.

The Intelligence Branch operates in a politically neutral domain; it is not authorized to include Israeli policies or postures in its assessments. The Intelligence chief's job is to be descriptive and analytical, not prescriptive. That guarantees impartiality and assures the chief of the branch full autonomy, rather than subjecting him to pressure from leaders who love nothing more than supporting their policies with a sound intelligence assessment.

Saguy's main claim to fame was providing then premier Yitzhak Shamir with the first annual assessment following the Gulf War. In it, he stated the branch's belief that Syria had made a strategic choice to pursue peace with Israel, and that Assad no longer viewed the military option as viable. Right or wrong, Saguy has stood by that view ever since.

Many IDF Intelligence chiefs – Yehoshafat Harkavi, Binyamin Jibli, Eli Ze'ira and Yehoshua Saguy among them – have left office under uncomfortable circumstances. Very few are considered to have completed an "illustrious" term heading the branch. Aharon Yariv is probably the only exception. Others just did the job, more or less successfully. A full assessment of two relatively recent branch heads, Ehud Barak and Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, is impossible without a longer perspective.

Saguy, who is being replaced by Brig.-Gen. Moshe Ya'alon two months earlier than planned, would probably have fallen into the second category had the feuds surrounding his retirement not been so emotional and public. *A.P.*

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A Syrian diplomat in khaki

As an adviser and confidant of President Hafez Assad, chief of staff Hikmat Shihabi is one of the country's most powerful military men, Steve Rodan reports

HIKMAT Shihabi and Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, who are to meet next week in Washington, have one thing in common – they both hold the position of military chief of staff.

But Lt.-Gen. Shahak is a relative newcomer, having occupied the post of IDF chief of general staff since January.

Shihabi has been in the position since August 13, 1974, less than a year after the Yom Kippur War. He was previously the head of military intelligence, a post that is regarded as one of the most sensitive in the regime of President Hafez Assad.

Unlike Shahak, Shihabi has a long history of taking part in diplomatic negotiations. As military intelligence chief, he participated in talks with then-secretary of state Henry Kissinger over the separation of forces accord with Israel, mediated by the American envoy.

"The role of chief of staff in Syria is not comparable [to that in Israel] because it is a political function rather than a military, operational one," says Yossi Olmert, a leading authority on Syria. "He is very close to Assad."

Shihabi was given the rank of *imad*, the Arabic equivalent of lieutenant general, matched only by Defense Minister Mustafa Tlas. The rank was not for his soldiering. Syria's top soldier is Gen. Ali Aslan, who is responsible for training the army.

Unlike Tlas, who over the last five years has lost the authority of his post, Shihabi remains one of the most powerful men in the Syrian military. But his role has been that of adviser and confidant to Assad, particularly on how to deal with the West.

In 1975, Shihabi prepared the Syrian incursion into Lebanon, ostensibly to help the Christians embroiled in battle with their Palestinian enemies. The entry of Syrian troops began what has turned out to be the occupation of most of Lebanon.

Later, Shihabi joined Tlas in negotiating purchases of Soviet weapons. Damascus has received few arms from Moscow over the last five years because Assad is having difficulty repaying his $11 billion debt to Russia.

Western diplomats say Shihabi is one of the few people in the Syrian leadership whom US officials know well. He has been to the States on several visits, and two of his children studied at American universities.

SHIHABI HAS passed the test of loyalty to Assad at least once. In 1984, he commanded the tank force that patrolled Damascus to prevent what the president feared would be a coup by his younger brother, Rifaat. At the time, the elder Assad was recovering from a heart attack and appeared vulnerable.

But Shihabi does not appear to be a candidate to succeed the president. Assad is an Alawite; Shihabi is a Sunni Moslem and is not part of the sect that rules Syria.

Shihabi is one of several Sunni leaders, such as Aslan, Tlas and Vice President Abdel Halim Haddam, who have preserved Assad's regime. Indeed, Assad has kept Alawites out of Syrian negotiations with Israel, a move analysts attribute to the president's fear that any peace treaty would later be denounced by his country's Sunni majority.

These days, Western diplomats say, Assad needs loyalists in the military. Diplomatic sources report grumbling in the army because of fears that a peace treaty with Israel will eliminate funding for badly needed weapons.

The Syrian army, according to the *Middle East Military Balance*, an annual report published by Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies, spent about $2.3 billion for defense in both 1992 and 1993. Its tank corps and air force are aging, with about 60 high-quality aircraft and 1,600 high-quality tanks left, all Soviet made.

The Syrian strength lies in surface-to-surface missiles, which Syria is developing with Iran. Diplomatic sources say that with the help of China and North Korea, Teheran and Damascus are developing an indigenous missile which can carry chemical and biological warheads.

A recent study by researcher Danny Shoham for Bar-Ilan University's Besa Center for Strategic Studies says Syria has the largest supply of chemical weapons in the Arab world.

So far, Shihabi has followed Assad's instructions to the letter and has been a tough negotiator. Israeli sources say he has successfully rejected Israeli demands to cut the size of the Syrian army and has insisted that any demilitarization be mutual and equal.

In Washington, Shihabi is expected to participate in a White House meeting with Shahak that will be attended by reporters. The Syrian chief of staff will be photographed and perhaps even questioned in an event the Clinton administration hopes will help convince the Israeli electorate of Assad's sincere wish for peace.

Olmert says Assad would not trust anybody else for the job.

"His role must be very important if he was appointed to this job," he says. "Assad would appoint to this job only someone he could trust 101 percent."

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OBEYING ORDERS IN A DEMOCRATIC SETTING

25 - 28 June 1995

CORRECTION

The first session of the Conference will take place on **Sunday, 25 June 1995, 5.00 pm**, at the Malka Brender Hall of Justice, Trubowicz Building of Law, Tel Aviv University.

Speaker will be:
General Klaus Naumann, Chief of Staff, Bunderswehr, Germany.

The topic will be:
Obeying Orders in a Democratic Setting,
Admission Free.

The next session of the Conference will take place on **Monday, 26 June 1995. 10.00 am**, at the Malka Brender Hall of Justice, Trubowicz Building of Law, Tel Aviv University.

Speaker will be:
General (res.) Ehud Baraq, former Chief of Staff.

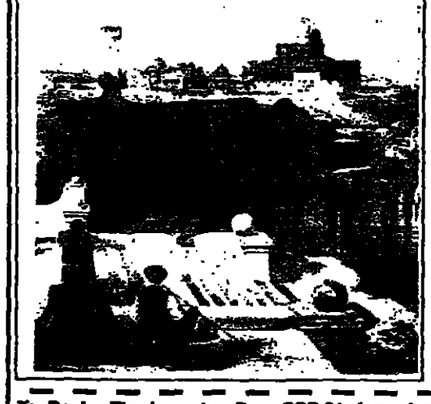
The topic will be:
Obeying Orders in a Democratic Setting,
Admission Free.

Professor Yoram Dinstein, President, Tel Aviv University will chair these sessions.

Simultaneous translation into English, German and Hebrew will be available to all.

For information on other sessions, please call the office of Professor Asa Kasher, Laura Schwarz-Kipp Professor of Professional Ethics and Philosophy of Practice, Tel Aviv University, Tel. + Fax (03) 640-9425.

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The ceremony will take place on Sunday, July 9, 1995, at the Mann Auditorium, Tel Aviv, in the presence of

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Mr. Yair Tsaban - Minister of Immigrant Absorption

Ex-Prisoners of Zion, recognized by the Authority for Determing Compensation Rights of Ex-Prisoners of Zion, and the families of victims of arbitrary state executions, **who have not received** a personal letter from the office this month, regarding the Prisoners of Zion Decoration award ceremony, with which was included a questionnaire, are asked to complete the form below, and send it as a matter of urgency to:

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Those who received a personal letter and questionnaire this week should not contact us a second time.

Female IAF officer is fighting for the right to fly

Alice Miller, who wants to be a pilot, is the first woman rejected for an IDF combat position to be granted a High Court hearing, Sue Fishkoff reports

ALICE Miller graduated from the Israel Air Force officers' course on Wednesday, just hours after her petition against the Air Force was brought before the Supreme Court, sitting as a High Court of Justice.

Miller is challenging the IAF's refusal to admit her to its prestigious pilots' course. She is the first woman rejected for an IDF combat position to receive a hearing before the High Court.

Despite its precedent-setting potential, Miller's case is being argued narrowly. Her petition seeks no more than to have Miller, 23, admitted to the pilots' course, from which she was rejected two years ago.

The petition does not seek a blanket policy change by the IDF that would open combat positions to women. But her lawyers and women's rights activists throughout the country say that, if she wins her appeal, the case will do just that.

"Obviously, this case will affect all women who want to volunteer for combat positions," says attorney Netta Ziv of the Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI), one of the two lawyers representing Miller before the High Court.

MK Naomi Chazan (Meretz), who is sponsoring a Knesset bill that would make all military positions gender blind, says this case isn't just about Miller.

"We don't want tokenism," she says, adding that she has a list in her office of more than 25 young women interested in entering the pilots' course. "We want to remove the elusive barrier to women's full self-realization, and you can only do that with a critical mass."

Educator and women's rights advocate Alice Shalvi says that "if a woman can pass the very arduous pilots' course, then that woman should be permitted to serve in that capacity."

If Miller loses her case, it could deter other young women from volunteering for combat positions.

Hani Okonski, 17, from Rehovot, is one high-school girl who has been watching the case with great interest. An expert sharpshooter, she hopes to teach an advanced shooting course when she enters the army next year.

"I'd rather be a sharpshooter than teach it, but that's not open to girls."

ATTORNEYS FOR the state, representing the Air Force, view the case in terms of military planning considerations.

They say the Defense Service Law, which requires less military service from women than from men, would make admitting women to the expensive and lengthy pilots' course financially prohibitive and operationally ineffective.

Miller's lawyers from the Israel Women's Network and ACRI view the case in terms of gender discrimination. Gender equality is a basic value in our democratic society, they argue, in this case overriding the IDF's objections, which are financial on the surface but are deeply rooted in outdated social taboos.

Popular objections to placing women in combat are varied: women are not as physically strong as men; their presence in front-line units would cause sexual tension; they would be raped if taken prisoner; the government would be overly vulnerable to ransom demands if a woman were taken hostage; women are biologically suited to bearing children, not arms.

None of these objections, however, appear in the Air Force's legal case against Alice Miller.

The state's affidavit, presented by OC Air Force Maj.-Gen. Herzl Bodinger in January, rests on financial and operational grounds. Its main point is that Air Force planning would be compromised if combat pilot positions were opened to women, not because women are less capable, but because they do less military duty, serve a shorter term in the reserves and must be released from duty if pregnant.

According to the state's affidavit, it costs $2 million to train an IAF pilot. Young men admitted to the course are required to sign up for seven years of military service, partly to compensate for that investment. It's simply not cost-effective to sink that kind of money into training a woman, who will give fewer years back to the state.

The Air Force says its hands are tied by the Defense Service Law, under which men are drafted for 36 months and are subject to reserve duty until the age of 54, although those in combat units are not called after they reach 45.

Women are drafted for 21 months and are subject to reserve duty until the age of 38. In practice, women are not called beyond the age of 24, if at all, except for medical professionals, who serve until they are 34. In addition, women soldiers may ask to be released if they marry or are religiously observant.

The Air Force builds its operational plan on the basis of a known number of combat-ready pilots, the state's affidavit continues. A woman pilot who becomes pregnant would be grounded for at least six months. Not only could the Air Force find itself with empty planes during a national emergency, but any pilot who does not fly for several months has to undergo intensive retraining. That would mean every time a woman had a child, she'd have to be retrained, a costly proposition.

"It's quite a good argument," Ziv admits. "They say, it's the Defense Service Law, not us, that's responsible for this decision. And the High Court can only review military policy, not change the law."

Ziv says the state's case against Miller is stronger because it does not bring up the stickier social objections to women serving in combat positions. Still, she insists, the state cannot get around the simple truth that Miller was kept out of the pilots' course simply because she is a woman. And that's why Miller's lawyers believe the High Court will support her petition.

The state's affidavit brings up the issue of gender equality, but insists this is a secondary issue in the Miller case. Miller's lawyers disagree.

"This is a clear case of discrimination against Alice Miller and other women in her position on the basis of gender," Ziv insists. "And gender equality is a fundamental right in our society."

The state's central argument rests on flawed premises, Ziv continues. "When I look at the Defense Service Law, I see nothing that restricts women from filling any military position."

The fact that women are required to serve less time in the military should not stand in the IDF's way, Ziv argues. Already, the IDF requires men and women to sign on for longer terms if they volunteer for certain positions that require greater time and financial investment, such as becoming a pilot or a military doctor. The Defense Service Law already provides a legal framework committing women to reserve duty until the age of 38. Why, then, she asks, can't the Air Force require female pilots to sign on for longer terms?

Similarly, women pilots could be required to waive their right to claim exemption for marriage or religious reasons. The exemption for pregnancy, however, is not voluntary. For medical reasons, a woman may not fly during the last six months of pregnancy.

Here, the argument of Miller's attorneys becomes more far-reaching. Society at large, not just the woman, benefits from procreation, they argue, so women should not be required to bear the cost of this benefit alone.

Pregnancy is a natural event in a woman's life, they argue. When the Air Force draws up its operational plans, it already has to calculate the likelihood of absenteeism due to foreign travel, study and illness among its male pilots. Pregnancy should be viewed as another factor in that equation.

MILLER'S ATTORNEYS point to the example set on February 7 by the US Department of the Navy, which adopted new guidelines declaring that pregnancy and motherhood are compatible with a naval career. As US Navy Secretary John Dalton stated, "Pregnancy is a natural event and not a medical emergency" and may not be used as an excuse to keep women out of military positions.

Miller's lawyers say there's a lot of interest in this case in the US. They've received advice from the National Women's Law Center in Washington, which is monitoring sexual integration in the US military.

"What we're asking for goes way beyond Alice Miller," Ziv says. "Just throwing her into the pilots' course and watching to see whether she sinks or swims is not enough.

"We are demanding that the IDF institute a program that, over time, will integrate women into the pilots' course and other [combat] positions in a workable manner."

There is no law barring Israeli women from combat positions, Miller's lawyers conclude. It is simply long-standing IDF policy that keeps women out, and policy can be changed if the will to change exists.

"The IDF has the mechanisms to take women in if it wants to," Ziv charges. "Since we're talking about a basic principle here – gender equality – they must do it unless it's impossible. The burden is on them to show why they cannot."



Alice Miller (right) consults with her lawyer, Netta Ziv of the Association for Civil Rights in Israel. (Brian Hendler)

She charts a new course

ALICE Miller would much rather be flying planes than headlining the evening news.

"I'm a little tired of all the publicity," she admitted in an interview in March, barely a month before she entered the Air Force officers' course. As an active servicewoman, she is now off-limits to reporters.

Miller, 23, was born in South Africa and immigrated to Israel with her parents when she was six. She's wanted to be a pilot for as long as she can remember.

Asked why last March, she answered simply: "For the same reason that men want to be pilots: I love to fly."

Miller deferred her military service in order to enter Haifa University, where she received her bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering.

Two years ago, during her studies, Miller applied for the IAF's pilot course. Not surprisingly, her application was rejected.

When Miller picked up the phone to President Ezer Weizman, a former Air Force commander, he told her to "forget about it" and mentioned something less than flattering about knitting socks.

Undeterred, Miller acquired her civilian pilot's license in South Africa, but she doesn't fly planes here.

"Too expensive," she noted. However, she loves to paraglide, and until her enlistment this May, she taught paragliding on the Golan in her spare time.

Miller has ready answers for most objections to her petition, including the sensitive issue of women POWs and exorbitant ransom demands that might be made for their release. "I don't think it's any easier for the State of Israel to deal with male POWs," she argued. "That's not a reason why a woman shouldn't be entitled to be a pilot if she chooses."

And to Air Force Maj.-Gen. Herzl Bodinger, who stated the IDF's objections to women pilots in an affidavit last January, she responded, "It's not the boys' club, it's the Israeli military. The legal barrier has to be broken."

Miller says she's ready to face a long High Court battle. She is still determined to enter the seven-year pilots' course, not fazed by the fact that she is already 23. She may be tired of the media attention, but she's not tired of flying.

By the time a decision is reached, however, it may be too late for her. Israel Women's Network attorney Rahel Benziman, one of the two lawyers representing Miller before the High Court, says she counseled Miller to go into the officers' course now, pending the court's decision.

"Even if the decision is positive, she won't be able to start the pilots' course right away," Benziman says. "It could take months or longer. It's best for her to take another position meanwhile." *S.F.*

The sky's the limit for IAF women – on the ground

LT. (res.) Yael Rom-Finkelstein is still the only woman in the history of the state to have successfully completed the Israel Air Force pilots' course and gone on to fly combat missions.

She served in the Mitla Pass during the 1956 Sinai campaign.

Today, Rom is opposed to placing women in direct combat situations, not because they wouldn't be able to handle it – Rom would be the last to make that argument – but because of the pressure it would put on the government to meet ransom demands if a woman combatant were captured.

She is reluctant to speak out about the Miller case. Rom is afraid that too much media attention will hurt Miller if she is eventually admitted to the pilots' course.

"The point is not to get *into* flying school, but to go *through* flying school," she says.

"If you stand out, if you're different, if you don't have the support [of your comrades], it makes the course 10 times more difficult.

"If Alice is accepted, what are her chances of success? She's very capable, but the system is against her. She's been in the public eye, she's older than most, she's already a pilot, and she'd be the only woman in a group of young men."

Rather than trying to make "political statements" by pushing one or two women into highly visible combat positions, Rom believes that women recruits should be encouraged to enter the many new fields now open to them.

As part of an Education Ministry project, Rom speaks to high-school girls throughout the country, suggesting they defer their military service to go to university to study engineering or science, so they can enter the army as officers.

Rom is president of ZONTA, an international organization of women in aeronautics, which last year awarded prestigious scholarships to three Technion women studying for their doctorates in astrophysics and aeronautical engineering.

"These women are well prepared to be astronauts, if they want," Rom says.

"Alice Miller could have gone this route, too.

"There are many ways to fly. You can either be at the controls as a pilot, or you can do what these young women are doing: putting planes in the air, controlling the industry through engineering expertise, or working on the flight deck as scientists." *S.F.*

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IDF stumbles when it comes to boots

Are soldiers getting the best available footwear? **Judy Siegel-Itzkovich** investigated the issue, and found the army unusually tight-lipped

YITZHAK Zohar has seen soldiers run a jeep over their army boots or pound them with a hammer in fruitless attempts to make the leather more flexible and less painful.

For the last two decades, the master shoemaker has had no more success softening up IDF decision-makers, who have adamantly and inexplicably refused to conduct scientific field tests of his own product, Zohar boots – which have been shown to significantly reduce the risk of debilitating stress fractures but are not supplied to troops.

Although an army is said to march on its stomach, the condition of soldiers' feet during months of intensive training and years of exercises is no less important than satisfying their appetite.

In a well-publicized but extreme case, the lack of comfortable boots during his IDF service was "one of many contributing factors" in the suicide of soldier Daniel Rockman earlier this year, according to his mother, Heather. Suffering from flat feet and radiating pains, he was cured as a teenager when he bought Zohar boots. But when the three-year-old boots finally fell apart during rigorous combat training, the army provided other boots that caused painful sores and "refused" to let him wear Zohar boots even if his family bought them. His military profile was lowered from 97 to 65, and the introverted soldier was separated from his unit and forced to do guard duty, which intensified his depression.

Stress fractures are microscopic fissures in the bone of the leg (most often the tibia or shinbone) caused by repeated pressure on the foot. They are usually very painful, and sometimes develop into full-fledged fractures; if the pressure continues and the condition is left untreated, permanent disability can result. Stress fractures are responsible for countless lost training days in the IDF and are estimated by orthopedists to affect as many as 30 percent of infantry soldiers and a somewhat smaller proportion of the others.

The 73-year-old cobbler, whose skills saved him from death in Nazi concentration camps in Poland, has won Israeli, American and German patents for his unique "Correctopedic" shoes.

"My father was a shoemaker; my cradle was next to his workbench," recalls Zohar, who saved fellow inmates from the crematoria by giving them work in the camp's shoe-repair factory. After liberation, he opened a small orthopedic shoemaker's shop in Holon.

Having a good memory, he testified in Germany against people he recognized as having committed war crimes; while there, he consulted with top orthopedists and presented his wares at an international shoe fair. He was offered high-paying jobs in the US and Switzerland, but refused. "I knew that my place was in Israel. Making special shoes for those who need them is my life's mission."

Zohar has specialized in making shoes for the disabled – people whose feet were deformed, disproportioned or diseased. He was even able to build a shoe that gives a natural, unobtrusive gait to a customer with one leg 16 centimeters shorter than the other.

Another man, 34-year-old Shlomo Hahimi, suffered for half his life from chronic foot sores that caused his doctors to consider amputation. He went to Zohar in desperation. "He built special shoes. In just a few weeks, they changed my life. I was able to stand straight and move freely. I stopped taking pills, and the open sores healed. My doctors couldn't believe their eyes."

Zohar explains: "I don't design a shoe that mimics the handicap: I change the structure so it shifts the pressure on the foot in the correct proportion. Feet walking on sand naturally put 75% of the body's weight on the heel, and 25% on the front part of the foot; conventional shoes are built to distribute weight much differently, causing damage to the feet and, in many cases, the back as well."

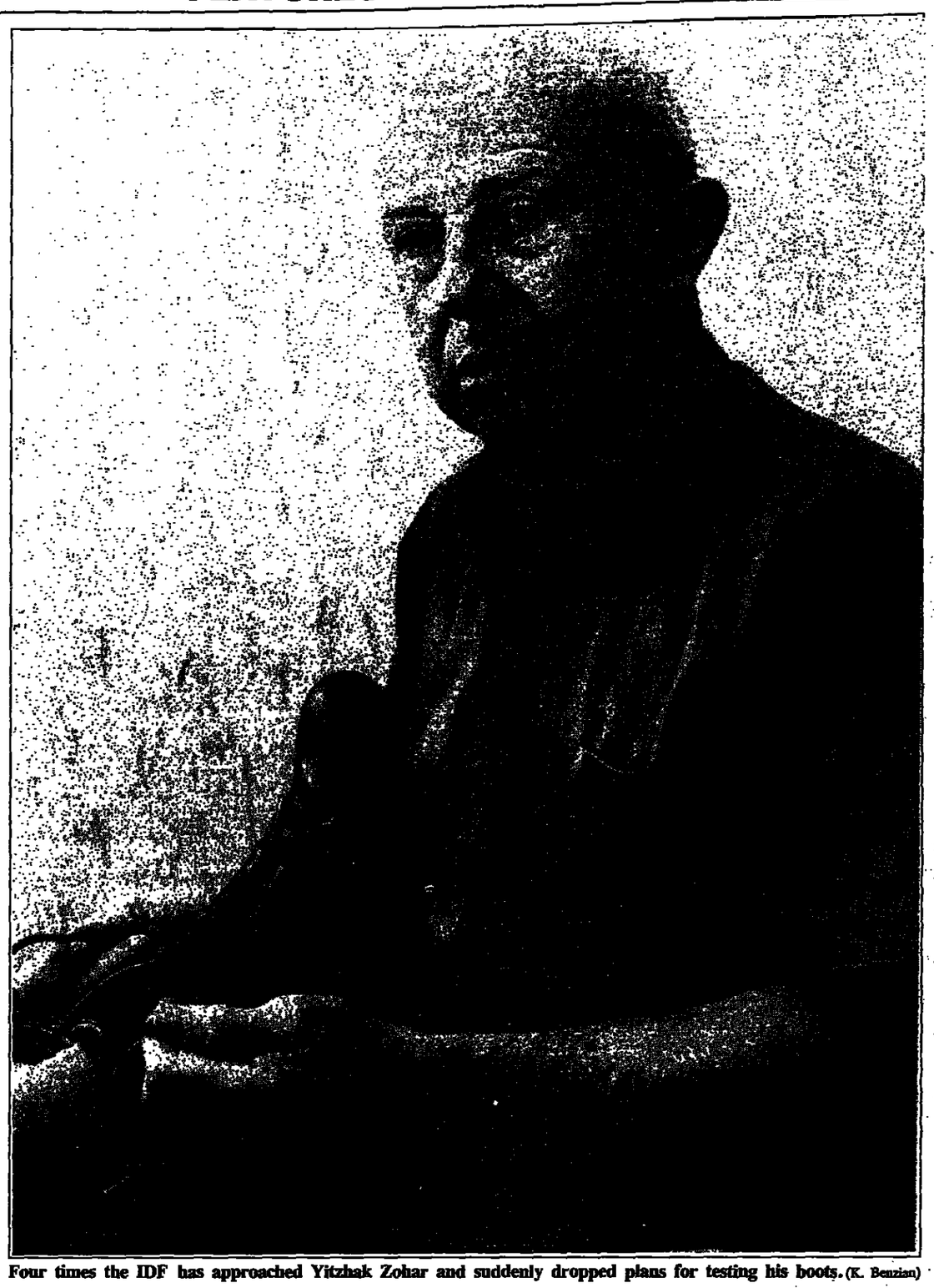
Fifteen years ago, Zohar hired Shuki Barak, who completed his IDF duty as an Air Force jet technician. "I've taught him everything I know, and eventually Shuki will fill my shoes," Zohar puns.

IN ADDITION to customized shoes, Zohar and Barak developed two other lines: standardized, hand-made shoes for healthy customers, and mass-produced footwear manufactured in Kibbutz Einat. The company has never advertised; learning of Zohar products by word of mouth, their customers even come from abroad. Zohar and Barak are now looking for an investor who will give them the resources to design more fashionable shoes and reach a wider market.

Gradually, Zohar encountered many soldiers suffering from the ravages of IDF boots. In 1972, he developed army boots aimed at reducing stress fracture risk. "The IDF sent representatives to me and ordered 50 pairs. They even provided the materials. I started to work, but then suddenly I was told to stop, without any reason given. They left me all the material, and didn't even send a bill. I was so hurt," he recalls. "I just couldn't understand it."

He designed a three-piece set of inserts for his army boots, from which each soldier can choose for the most comfort. The elite commando unit, the General Staff Reconnaissance Unit, was briefly provided with Zohar boots, and other soldiers bought them when the IDF refused to provide them free.

Since 1972, Zohar has been approached three more times by IDF officers from various departments, including the office of the Chief Medical Officer (CMO). In each case, Zohar says he offered to supply boots in a variety of sizes at low cost or even free, and to cancel any special commercial rights and privileges due him. In every case, plans for testing them were suddenly dropped, without explanation.



Four times the IDF has approached Yitzhak Zohar and suddenly dropped plans for testing his boots. (K. Benzian)

He wrote to the State Ombudsman (who said the material merited investigation by the State Comptroller), the Defense Ministry (both the minister and IDF complaints officer), and the IDF's CMO. None of those who did respond could explain the riddle.

This year, Zohar was invited to meet a team appointed by the CMO to discuss the matter. "At the end of the meeting, it was agreed to conduct a study in March on Zohar boots. They were very positive, and spoke in detail about financing tests on 350 pairs that I would supply to the IDF at a discount price." However, Zohar's hopes were soon dashed when the project was canceled – again, without explanation.

Zohar and Barak charge civilian employees in the IDF who decide on purchasing "but who have no expertise" have "killed" field tests of his boots even before their scheduled launching. They also claim the economic interests at stake are so massive that the IDF – which spent millions of shekels on a new lighter-weight army boot – does not want an objective comparison of military footwear with the Zohar boot.

This reporter asked the IDF Spokesman for permission to speak to the new CMO, Dr. Yehoshua Shemer, to Dr. Boaz Lev, his former deputy (and now on loan to the Health Ministry, where he is associate director-general), or to anyone else familiar with the matter. After a week, the Spokesman's Office said Shemer declined to be interviewed – and also refused to give permission to Lev to talk, even though the latter has worn Zohar boots and was willing to be interviewed.

The CMO office then said one of its colonels would provide full information on the IDF's views about the matter. Two weeks after the request was put in, and after publication was delayed twice, the Spokesman's Office suddenly turned cold, saying this reporter must submit all questions in writing. The *Post* did not agree.

Zohar, a heart patient but doggedly persistent, says he will continue the fight. "Soldiers are our children. I want the best for them. I was really hurt by the way the IDF has dealt with this matter. We of course can't force the IDF to issue our boots, but the least it can do is test them objectively."

How boots lined up on tibia stress

YITZHAK Zohar's claims that his footwear significantly reduces the risk of stress fractures received strong support from a new study.

Prof. Charles Milgrom, a senior orthopedist at Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem, and Prof. David Burr, chairman of the anatomy department at the University of Indiana School of Medicine, authored the study. Both men, in their 40s, made a considerable personal sacrifice to study five types of boots and shoes: They underwent minor surgery under local anesthetic to have a monitoring device implanted in their shin bones.

During a single day, they tried the old- and new-type IDF boots, the Zohar boot, New Balance 909 running shoes and Rockport ProWalker shoes. Using a telemetry system, a computer picked up data on the amount of stress put on the tibia (the most common site of stress fractures) while the professors walked on a treadmill and ran on the track of the Hebrew University's Givat Ram stadium. The research was financed by a grant from the US-Israel Binational Science Foundation and the US National Institutes of Health, in cooperation with the University of Indiana and the Bone and Joint Center of Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit.

The two professors had miniature devices called "rosette strain gages" implanted in their bones to provide objective data on strain measurements of the bone surface; these were removed 10½ hours later. All of the footwear had been broken in for several days prior to the experiment.

The Zohar boot was found to be, by far, the least stressful on the tibia; the old infantry boot performed considerably better than the new, double-layered boot that is being phased in by the IDF. The running shoes came in fourth, followed by the walking shoes.

The researchers urged further studies on Zohar boots and noted that "the public's concept of what are proper and optimal shoes for a given activity is based more on advertising and endorsement by prominent athletes than on research data."

IDF sources quoted by the army magazine *Bamahaneh* have claimed that the type of shoes worn has no effect on reducing the incidence of stress fractures. This was "proven" in comparative studies of IDF infantry boots and sports shoes, but not of the Zohar boots. Instead, they argued, actual field conditions, lack of sleep and diet are the main factors.

Commenting on Milgrom's research, the IDF Spokesman said such a "small study" did not necessarily reflect the effects of field conditions. Milgrom has enlisted seven more colleagues to undergo the minor surgery for an expanded study. *J.S.-I.*

Lawmakers examine the expiration date and the PLO product

Congress is debating the extension of a law that governs relations with the PLO. It expires next week, **Hillel Kuttler** reports from Washington

A key word in Washington now is balance, with Israel, the Palestinians and the Clinton administration perched on a high wire.

Next Friday, a law governing American relations with the PLO will expire.

If it is not not renewed, the PLO's office here will be shut, US financial aid to the Palestinian Authority will end, and meetings between Secretary of State Warren Christopher and PLO chairman Yasser Arafat will be but a memory.

Congress does not want that to happen, so an updated version of the 1994 Middle East Peace Facilitation Act (MEPFA) will almost certainly emerge.

The current law waives several prohibitions on US-PLO dealings, provided that the administration certifies that the PLO is complying with the Oslo accord.

"I wouldn't think we have a problem. Everyone wants to see this go through," said a House aide involved with the issue, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Nearly two years after the Declaration of Principles was signed – and notwithstanding the State Department's semiannual compliance reports – Congress remains skeptical about whether the PLO has met its commitments to Israel, which is the basis of MEPFA.

Consequently, Congress now has a certain leverage with the Palestinian leadership.

"The obvious fact is that some progress has been made by the Palestinian Authority, but it is short of what we had wanted and hoped for," said Senator Joseph Lieberman, a Democrat from Connecticut, who in 1989 coauthored a law establishing the criteria for US-PLO dialogue.

"And once again, we're facing the question: Do we cut off aid and therefore effectively stifle the peace process?"

US administration officials believe that PLO efforts to contain terrorism are being carried out in good faith and are improving, and that MEPFA deserves to be extended. Otherwise, they say, the US will be cut out of the peace process.

According to a senior administration official, who declined to be identified, the US must remain engaged in the Israeli-Palestinian process for three reasons:

- It is important for both sides "to have somewhere to go" with complaints or suggestions for advancing the negotiations.
- The US has a positive impact on Arafat. "I'm absolutely persuaded that while we aren't the determinant for decisions Arafat made, we make it easier for him.... We're kind of a mirror that's held up."
- Thirdly, "the donor effort exists because of us. Without us, you have [none]."

At stake is $500 million in grants and loans the administration has committed to the Palestinians over a five-year period. Only one-fourth of the American aid has gone directly to the PA, for salaries and other expenses. The rest is sent to a multinational agency, the Holst Fund, for infrastructure projects.

REPRESENTATIVE James Saxton, a New Jersey Republican, said he intends to introduce an amendment to an appropriations bill that would totally eliminate US funding for the Palestinians.

"We're all disappointed in the lack of progress that the PLO has shown in carrying out the provisions of the accords, with specific reference to the continuing terrorist attacks, failure to disarm terrorists, their seeming lack of cooperation with regard to extradition [of terrorists to Israel], failure to cooperate with our law-enforcement agencies and investigators ... failure to change the covenant ... to disavow their attitude toward Israel and their attitude toward terrorism generally," Saxton said in an interview.

"It just seems to many of us that there has been no perceptible change in the PLO's attitude, the PLO policy. So we're going to send a very strong message that ... if we're going to continue to be participants in this matter, we would like to see progress."

The Israeli government strongly supports continued American-PLO contacts, but says it understands such concerns.

"If we are talking about reservations, then we also don't have 100 percent faith and confidence" in the PLO, said Ambassador to the US Itamar Rabinovich. "The whole agreement between Israel and the PLO has built into this a testing mechanism in order to test how the relationship works. We, also, need to be reassured."

In meetings on Capitol Hill, "[what] we are explaining is that one needs to strike a perfect balance whereby the mechanisms built into the legislation allay people's concerns, and at the same time leave enough breathing space to allow the process to continue."

SEVERAL OPTIONS for extending MEPFA are now being considered in both the House and Senate, with the ultimate model likely to emerge from the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Any legislation will at minimum incorporate all the PLO's commitments to Israel under the Cairo accord, which was signed after MEPFA was enacted.

There is last-minute scrambling because, despite the June 30 expiration date, Congress has had other foreign-affairs matters to conclude. To allow more time for consideration of MEPFA, House International Relations Committee chairman Benjamin Gilman will soon propose either one 90-day or two 45-day temporary extensions of MEPFA.

Even a temporary extension will only intensify the debate.

Americans for Peace Now and the Arab American Institute have lobbied on behalf of MEPFA. The Zionist Organization of America has pushed equally hard against it, with a campaign that included a briefing for freshmen House Republicans last week by ZOA president Morton Klein. The American-Israel Public Affairs Committee favors extension.

James Zogby, president of the Arab American Institute, maintained that the law is fundamentally flawed because it heaps expectations only upon the Palestinians.

"Our feeling is we never should have had this in the first place," he said.

Lieberman said he supports extension of MEPFA in part because it would help raise the standard of living in the autonomous areas, and thereby the prospects for peace.

"Our aim here is to continue to put pressure, to send a clear message to the Palestinians that there's a long way to go, there's a lot of unhappiness here."

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Semitic mix-up, a phantom speech and other gaffes

EYE ON THE MEDIA

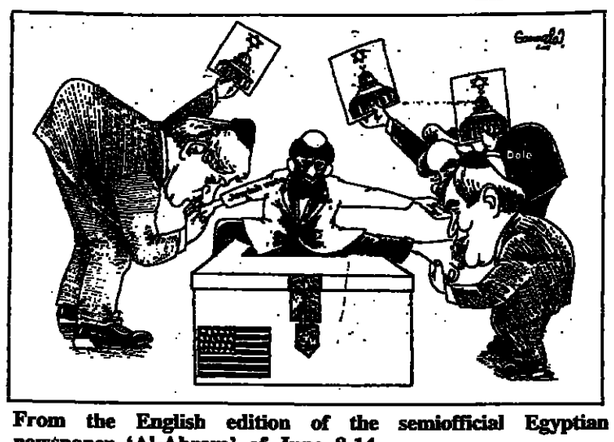
DAVID BAR-ILLAN

TIME magazine's June 5 issue had an unusually balanced, unexceptionable story titled "Sick to Death of Peace." It was accompanied by a picture captioned, "Kidnapping and Control: After one of their soldiers was abducted last fall, the Israelis set up checkpoints like this one in the Gaza Strip."

The only problem was that the soldier in the picture, shown checking identity cards of Arab youths, was in Palestinian Police uniform, with a Kalashnikov strapped on his shoulder.

It is difficult to believe that the error was committed in *Time*'s Israel bureau. It must have happened in New York, where showing a Palestinian doing "occupation" duty – so habitually identified with Israelis – is obviously unthinkable.

A more puzzling faux pas was committed by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres in his recently published book, *Battling for Peace: A Memoir*. Telling the story of his participation at age 23 in the 1946 Zionist congress in Basel, Peres describes how impressed he was by Berl Katznelson's "brilliant speech." But Katznelson died two years before, in 1944.



From the English edition of the semiofficial Egyptian newspaper 'Al-Ahram' of June 8-14.

Peres's other gaffes are even less comprehensible. He says he told Anwar Sadat, upon first meeting him, that "Jews never ruled over other nations." This may be true about Jews in Bialystok, but hardly about the Jewish nation in biblical times.

To compound the silliness, he praises the US for never attempting to retain conquered territories. The purpose of the remark is obvious enough. But one can only wonder how his American editor let such nonsense through.

Even innocent mistakes can have unpredictable consequences. The transcript of Yitzhak Rabin's address to the AIPAC convention last month includes the sentence, "We must fight the scourge of humanism," instead of "Khomeinism." It is easy to imagine a future historian pondering the reasons for Rabin's assault on humanism.

Translations can be even more dangerous than the prime minister's accent. A Diane Sawyer interview with Michael Jackson, published on Monday in *Ma'ariv*, had her asking the superstar, "In one of your songs you sing 'convert me to Judaism, sue me.' Some people believe these are antisemitic statements."

Sawyer actually said, "you sing 'Jew me, sue me,' etc." The translator obviously thought "to Jew" meant to make one into a Jew. *Ma'ariv* readers must wonder why a plea to be converted to Judaism is deemed antisemitic.

A less amusing misreading occurred when Yisrael Segal, anchor of Israel Television's Friday night news show, engaged me in a shouting match on Wednesday. The arena was Ram Evron's television talk show, and the issue my criticism of ITV's previous Friday's show, in which Segal presented a Syrian propaganda film and Ehud Ya'ari was a straight man for Syrian journalist Rana Qabbani.

"You even go into an analysis of my psyche in your article," charged Segal. Knowing that I never referred to him in the editorial, I was perplexed. "What are you talking about?" I asked. "Yes, you said I was psychopathic," answered Segal. I denied it, of course. But after the show I scrutinized the article in the hope of finding what he could have misinterpreted. Sure enough, I had written that the interview which Ya'ari (not Segal) conducted with Qabbani was "groveling and sycophantic."

It is no crime to be unfamiliar with the word sycophantic, particularly in a medium where encyclopedic ignorance seems to be a job requirement. But it takes more than a little reading sloppiness to mistake it for psychopathic, especially when the latter makes no sense in the context. The program was pre-recorded, and Evron, a kind, protective man and Segal's colleague, excised this and other false charges made by Segal before screening. This made my protest at the debate's end against Segal's falsifications seem puzzling if not irrational. The moral: never appear on the electronic media on pre-recorded programs.

Referring to the "Eye on the Media" column on the Qabbani program of June 9, reader Ya'akov Golan claims I made a mistake in stating that the number of Golan residents who left in the 1967 war was 60,000. He writes, "The BBC-TV documentary... is indeed 'crude and hokey propaganda' as you state in your June 18th editorial. Its ludicrous and maudlin staginess should be an embarrassment to the BBC whose normally high standards have been so compromised.

"[But according to] *Israel Guide – Hermon and Golan*, published in Hebrew by Keter and the Defense Ministry... 'In 1961 a census was carried out which counted 111,340 residents. 78,281 lived in the Kuneitra district.... In the course of the Six Day War, most of the civilian population fled....' If there were 100,000 refugees in 1967, there could well be 300,000 today...."

I got the number 60,000 from a former member of the Israel peace-talks delegation. And since most refugees are from the Kuneitra area, they could have been returned to their land long ago. The Syrians don't let them.

To add to the confusion, Kuneitra is described as a once-thriving town of 17,000 in a pro-Syrian article in the April *Harper's*. (Qabbani's number was 53,000.)

To rely on Arab statistics, as regarding Palestinian refugees (whose numbers are usually tripled and quadrupled in Arab and pro-Arab reports), is folly.

In this game, some names are really the same

A VIEW FROM NOV

MOSHE KOHN

IT TOOK me a few years of living here to learn not to reflexively turn around to see who was calling me every time someone called out "Moishe!" or "Cohen!"

(Although we spell our name Kohn, which is commonly pronounced "Kahn," my father chose the "Cohen" pronunciation when he arrived in the US from Jerusalem in 1922. In Hebrew we spell our name as all the *C/Kohanim* do, *kaf-heh-nun*, and I have been told that there are 250 "Moshe Cohens" in the Jerusalem Hebrew telephone directory alone, though I am the only "Moshe Kohn" in the English directory.)

I had suspected that both my given name, surname and the combination of the two were common here. I have since learned of surveys confirming that "Moshe" is the most common given name here and "C/Koh(e)n" the most common surname.

The survey on given names (which I mentioned here May 19) was conducted by Edwin Lawson, emeritus professor of psychology at State University of New York/Fredonia. He published his findings in the June 1991 issue of *Names*, journal of the American Name Society.

"Moshe" was immediately followed by Ya'acov, Yosef, Avraham and David. The next 25 names were also very traditional ones – contrary to the impression about the widespread use of quasi-Canaanite names or exotic biblical names or newly coined ones.

None of those 30 names clearly indicates whether the bearer is of Ashkenazi, Sephardi or Oriental origin, as would be the case with such names as Kalman, Nissim and Rahamim.

Lawson also conducted the survey on surnames, together with Charles Kormos of the Beth Hatefutsoth research department and Joseph Ben-Brit of Hibbat Tzion.

They published their findings in two installments in the June and December 1992 issues of *Onomastica Canadiana*, journal of the Canadian Society for the Study of Names.

Immediately following Cohen in frequency were, as you may have guessed, Levy and Mizrahi. Next were Peretz and Biton. Cohen and Levy could be borne by Jews of Ashkenazi, Sephardi or Oriental origin. Peretz could, in rare instances, be Ashkenazi. Mizrahi and Biton are strictly Sephardi/Oriental.

These five surnames were followed by Avraham (which could indicate all origins), Friedman (Ashkenazi), Dahan (Oriental), Katz (Ashkenazi) and Yosef (usually Sephardi/Oriental).

The study notes that Hebrew accounts for one meaning of 53 percent of the names; German/Yiddish 27.2; Arabic 26.7; Berber, 4.

(Some names have meanings in several languages. For example, Amsalem in Moroccan and Algerian Arabic means "one submissive to God," and in Islamic lands was a synonym for "Jew." But it is also the name of two localities in Morocco.)

IN EXPLAINING "Katz," the authors repeated an error that has been perpetuated by the mistranslation of a term appearing in Qumran documents.

"Katz" is an acronym of the Hebrew "*kohen tzedek*," commonly translated as "priest of righteousness." Similarly, the term "*moreh tzedek*," which appears in several Qumran documents, has been translated as "teacher of righteousness."

More likely, the first designations mean "authentic priest," as distinguished from several usurpers of the priestly office in the course of Jewish history; and the second, "authentic teacher" or "decisor" (authoritative arbitrator in halachic matters), as distinguished from those regarded as teachers of false doctrine or distorters of Halacha.

"*Tzedek*" meaning "authentic" appears in the commandment concerning honest weights and measures in Leviticus 19:36 and Deuteronomy 25:15.

Incidentally, "*moreh tzedek*" provides the acronym *mem-tzadi*, which is one of the sources of the surname Matz.

TWO YEARS ago Lawson was one of the organizers of the First International Onomastic Conference at Bar-Ilan University on "What's In a Jewish Name?" That conference's prime mover was Prof. Aharon Demsky of Bar-Ilan's Jewish history department and coordinator of the university's Project on Jewish Genealogy.

Now Demsky has organized an all-Israeli conference on "Jewish Names" to take place at Bar-Ilan next Monday and Tuesday.

The topics to be discussed include various aspects of the significance Jewish tradition attaches to names; name changes and double names among the Jews of Babylonia/Iraq (by Demsky); first-name changes of newcomers from the former Soviet Union (a study done jointly by Lawson and Irina Glushkovskaya of Ramle, which she will present); distinctiveness of Jewish women's names in Yemen; Slavic names in 10th-century Hebrew documents from Kiev; personal names in Jewish inscriptions from the Golan dating back to Second Temple, Mishna and Talmud times; and contemporary naming patterns.

DR. SASCHA Whitman of Tel Aviv University, whose field is the sociology of culture, studied Jewish naming patterns in Eretz Yisrael from 1882 to 1980.

He found that until 1920 people tended to give their children classical names: Avraham, Sarah, and so on. From 1921 to 1944 the names were still biblical, but a bit more exotic: Gideon, Tamar.

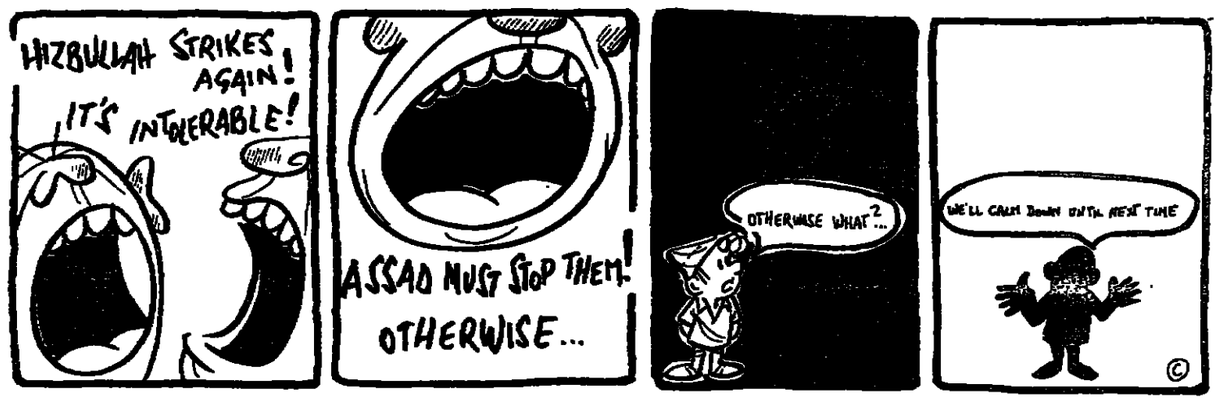
After the establishment of the state, epithets (Yaffa/Beautiful; Gil/Joy) and names drawn from nature (Aviva/Spring; Ilan/Tree) became popular.

Thirty-six percent of the names given to boys and 24 percent of the girls' names reflected close identification with Jewish tradition, and 37 percent of the boys' names and 46 percent of the girls' names reflected the ethos of the "New Israel."

Interior Ministry records for 1980-1988 showed that such "new" names as Ofir and Daniela were on the increase, and the number of Moshes, Yosefs and Yisraels was decreasing.

Neither Ofir nor Daniela appears in Lawson's 1991 list, which was based on the country's telephone directories.

SRULIK by DOSH



Silent Moses finds the answer to Korah

SHABBAT SHALOM

SHLOMO RISKIN

"And they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron, and said to them, You take too much upon you, seeing all the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the Lord is among them: why then do you raise yourselves up above the congregation of the Lord?"
(Numbers 16:2-3)

THE Bible contains a great deal of drama, including political intrigue. This week's portion describes how even the populist leader who defied Pharaoh to win freedom for his people must respond to a rebel threatening revolution.

And despite the biblical hint that Korah's major motivation was jealousy – he couldn't abide the appointment of younger cousin Elzaphan as prince instead of himself – he attempts to provide a legitimate camouflage for his envy.

Korah invokes democracy: The Almighty's presence is to be found with each and every Israelite, so why are Moses and Aaron exalted above the multitude? The Sages of the Midrash, however, provide Korah with a legal argument reminiscent of a rabbinic study-hall debate.

The Bible requires every four-cornered garment to have a fringe on each corner, with the stipulation "that they place a thread of blue with the fringe of each corner." (Numbers 15:38)

Korah, self-appointed attorney for the people vs. Moses, tries to prove that Moses' law is fundamentally illogical and therefore cannot be Divine.

Does a garment which is entirely blue, he asks, still require a blue thread on each fringe? Moses answers in the affirmative, and Korah ridicules the answer. According to *his* logic, if only one blue thread on the fringe renders a garment ritually proper, then why doesn't a completely blue garment render a single blue thread superfluous?

Korah then notes the Bible's command that in order for a house to be fit for habitation, the resident must affix to the doorposts mezuzot consisting of two passages from the Torah. But, Korah asks, if the house is entirely filled with Torah scrolls, must a mezuza still be placed on each doorpost?

Moses again responds in the affirmative, and is again ridiculed.

What is perplexing about this Midrash is Moses' silence. Is it possible that he had no logical response? Any impartial observer could suggest a rejoinder:

We must distinguish between the fringes and the garment, between the doorpost and the house. It is the fringe which is most visible, and therefore it must contain the thread of blue which is reminiscent of the heavens and its God. It is the doorway through which one enters and exits, and therefore the requirement of a mezuza is specific to the doorpost, regardless of the house's contents.

BUT PERHAPS in remaining silent, Moses was hinting that not every question in Judaism ought to be answered. First of all, he knew that Korah's questions were not for the sake of heaven; he was only looking for a way to discredit Moses and his interpretations.

Had Moses provided a logical answer to one objection, Korah would merely have raised another. Since some aspects of every religion can never be scientifically proven, there must be a will to believe. And for those who *wish to believe*, there are no devastating questions, just as for those who will *not* believe, there will never be satisfactory answers.

Moreover, there must always be an aspect of the religious enterprise which is based on a faith which transcends fact, a love which supersedes logic or a passion which overcomes pedantry.

So it is with the relationship between lover and beloved, in which emotion dares not defy logic, but neither ought we choose a mate without taking personal chemistry and emotional affinity into account.

From this perspective, although the Midrash sees the commandment of the fringes as the bridge between last week's portion and Korah's rebellion, perhaps the sin of the scouts is the real connecting point. The scouts adopted the tenets of military strategy, but lacked faith in God and love of the land.

According to my rebbe and mentor, the late Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik, Moses didn't quite understand the Divine command. He heard the Almighty ask him to send out men to spy out (*vayaturu*) the land of Canaan. But the word "*tur*," as it is used at the end of the previous portion also means to love, or lust after.

If, then, the word has two possible interpretations, both must be combined. The scouts were sent to spy out the land, but they were also sent to fall in love with the land – just as our Sages teach: "It is forbidden for a man to marry a woman unless he first sees her ... and loves her." (B.T. *Kedushin* 41a)

The land had to be spied out so the Israelites would know how best to conquer it, but the land also had to be seen and loved so the Israelites would be willing to take the risks concomitant with conquest. Love has to be added to logic, and faith has to accompany fact, if the land is to be won and if God and His Torah are to be accepted.

The Midrash suggests that Korah attempted to defeat Moses with logic alone. But although the Torah, and certainly the Talmud, feature a logical superstructure, their infrastructure far transcends Mathematics 613.

Despite all the religio-legal analyses, there remains a mystery to a blue thread on a four-cornered garment, and to a parchment scroll on the doorpost of a house – just as the laws of physics cannot exhaust the mystery of creation and the particulars of botany cannot explain the glory of an almond tree.

This is what God teaches Korah, and what the Torah teaches us with the silence of Moses our Teacher, greatest prophet of all time. ***Shabbat Shalom***

Help us provide day camps for children, day trips for the old

FUNDS

BEVERLEE BLACK

NOW that school is almost over, social-welfare workers are asking us to help subsidize summer day camps at community centers and schools.

There are many families living under the poverty line with three and four children who just can't pay to send their youngsters to camp and are looking to the Toy Fund for assistance.

Several clubhouses for the elderly in distressed neighborhoods have again asked the Forsake Me Not Fund to help pay for day trips. Without our aid, many of these senior citizens will not be able to take advantage of this opportunity. Your support can add a little fun and happiness to their lives.

We were very happy to see our friend, Joseph Achsen of Montreal, who came to our office and brought a package of beautiful children's clothing valued at Can.$360. The donation was made to the Toy Fund in honor of the bat mitzva of Sarah Dubinsky, daughter of Drs. Isser and Toni Dubinsky.

Remember, how much we do depends on you. Please give generously. Send your checks to: The Jerusalem Post Funds, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem.

Donors in the US wishing to receive tax benefits can send their donations to: Friends of The Jerusalem Post Funds, 211 E. 43rd Street, New York, NY 10017. Please designate in your letter to which fund you wish to donate.

FORSAKE ME NOT

NIS 360 In honor of our newborn son, Menachem Ben-Tzion – Daniel and Varda Brief, J'lm.
NIS 200 Anon., Herzliya. Frankie and Michael Jaffe, Haifa.
NIS 150 Anon., J'lm. In honor of Dr. Ruth Kitsas, of Carmel Hospital, Haifa, for her dedicated, life-saving care – From the family of Thomas Sussman.
NIS 120 To mark the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Rachel and Meir Silverstone – R. and P.L., J'lm.
NIS 100 To honor our beloved mother, Hertha Erna Birnbaum (z.l.), born Berlin 30.6.1895, perished Auschwitz 1943, on the occasion of her 100th birthday, in everlasting memory, gratitude and love – Steffi B. Schwarcz, J'lm., and Irene Birnbaum, London. In honor of our dear friend, Minnie Geshen's birthday – Alec and Lily Wies, Haifa.
NIS 90 Hedy Resnick, Savyon
NIS 60 In memory of Reuven Eliezer – Anon.
NIS 50 In memory of my dear ones – S. Ark, J'lm. In honor of Asher Sapir's 82nd birthday – Anon.
NIS 42 In memory of Jim – CEE, Haifa.
NIS 40 In honor of Barbara and Selwyn Lurie's 40th wedding anniversary – Mabel Elhanani, Hofit.
NIS 18 In honor of my birthday – CEE, Haifa.
NIS 5 Mrs. E. Rosenstein, Netanya.
$600 The Welfare Committee of the Jewish Community of Japan.
$500 The Jewish Community of Okinawa.
$125 In memory of my beloved husband, Melvin – Rivka Glatt, Cherry Hill, NJ.
$100 In memory of Leon Jaffe, a good engineer and friend – Jacob Sperman, Brooklyn, NY. Mr. and Mrs. Alonzo Gaubert, Piedmont, OK.
$50 Sisterhood Temple B'nai Sholem, New Bern, NC. In memory of Charlie Smith – he was a good friend – Jacob Sperman, Brooklyn, NY.
$36 Anon., Skokie, IL. Adrienne Marks, Washington, DC.
$15 Virginia Randall, Scottsdale, AZ.

New Donations	Progress Totals
NIS 1,735	NIS 75,270.1
$1,612	$24,819.05
–	£549.90
–	DM10,950
–	Dn.Kr.300
–	DFL1,500
–	Can$2,267
–	Sw.Fr.180
–	Fr.Fr.850
–	Aust.Sch.2,000

TOY FUND

NIS 1,500 Anon.
NIS 360 In honor of our newborn son, Menachem Ben-Tzion – Daniel and Varda Brief, J'lm.
NIS 200 Anon., Herzliya. Ester Beck, Kfar Shmaryahu.
NIS 180 In memory of Jack Rosenfeld – Sheri and Menachem Gross, J'lm.
NIS 150 Happy birthday Avishai and Miki – Love Eyal, Ilana Stein, J'lm.
NIS 100 To honor our beloved mother, Hertha Erna Birnbaum (z.l.), born Berlin 1895, perished Auschwitz 1943, on the occasion of her 100th birthday, in everlasting memory, gratitude and love – Steffi B. Schwarcz, J'lm., and Irene Birnbaum, London. In honor of our wonderful Keren – J. and M. Dean. Daniel Barash, J'lm.
NIS 90 Hedy Resnick, Savyon.
NIS 54 Arlene Alyehs, Ra'anana.
NIS 50 In memory of my dear ones – S. Ark, J'lm. In honor of the marriage of Heidi and Michael Kremins – Janie Aronson, J'lm. Mr. and Mrs. Mandelkorn, J'lm.
NIS 40 Anon.
NIS 20 In honor of the marriage of Heidi and Michael Kremins – Shirley Granovetter, J'lm.
$600 The Welfare Committee of the Jewish Community of Japan.
$500 Alan Schuman, Hartford, CT.
$300 Anon.
$100 S. and G. Relis, Wellington, NZ.
$40 Janice Cervi, Misbawala, IN.
$25 Anon. In honor of Lee Thomas Greenberg, on his bar mitzva – Bill Yeglin, Des Moines, IA.
$18 Adrienne Marks, Washington, DC. In honor of Jarrett's high-school graduation and Jason's middle-school graduation – may they always be safe – Jeffrey, Ellen and Lindsey Charo, Del Mar, CA.
$5 Howard Jacobs, Kirkland, WA.

New Donations	Progress Totals
NIS 3,394	NIS 55,719
$1,631	$19,117.22
–	DM1,750
–	Dn.Kr.300
–	DFL1,500
–	Can$658
–	Sw.Kr.140
–	£35
–	Fr.Fr.300

WELCOME HOME FUND

NIS 360 In honor of our newborn son, Menachem Ben-Tzion – Daniel and Varda Brief, J'lm.
NIS 200 Anon., Herzliya.
NIS 150 Anon., J'lm.
NIS 100 To honor our beloved mother, Hertha Erna Birnbaum (z.l.), born Berlin 30.6.1895, perished Auschwitz 1943, on the occasion of her 100th birthday, in everlasting memory, gratitude and love – Steffi B. Schwarcz, J'lm., and Irene Birnbaum, London. In thanks for our four fine new walls – J. and M. Dean, Holon.
NIS 50 In memory of my dear ones – S. Ark, J'lm.
NIS 5 Mrs. E. Rosenstein, Netanya.
$20 In memory of father/grandfather, Julius M. Bornstein – Joseph Bornstein, Burlington, VT.
$18 Adrienne Marks, Washington, DC.

New Donations	Progress Totals
NIS 1,040	NIS 35,391
$38	$10,748.12
–	Dn.Kr.300
–	DFL1,500
–	Can$270
–	£35
–	DM800
–	Sw.Fr.180
–	Fr.Fr.300

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05-3281/1

Life at the top

BRIDGE

MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

West dealer
Both sides vulnerable

North
♠ –
♡ J98
◇ K643
♣ KJ9543

West
♠ J1092
♡ 10543
◇ Q108
♣ 86

East
♠ 7543
♡ AK76
◇ J92
♣ Q2

South
♠ AKQ86
♡ Q2
◇ A75
♣ A107

West	North	East	South
pass	pass	pass	2NT
pass	3NT	pass	4♣
pass	4◇	pass	4♡
pass	4♠	(all pass)	

TEAMS from Israel are competing for the top four spots in the European Teams Championship in Vilamoura, Portugal, this week.

US teams did battle in Las Vegas, Nevada, last week for a similar goal: to represent their country in the world championships next fall in Beijing.

With the best players in the world taking part, the competition is fierce.

One of the difficulties in high-level bridge is the complicated nature of bidding systems, filled with artificial sequences.

There is, of course, an obligation to explain your system. When you make a bid that is not what it sounds like, you must inform your opponents of the true meaning. This can create ethical problems when your partner overhears what you are saying. This does not happen in championships, where bidding screens are used.

Huge diagonal screens, which extend from one corner of the table to the other, prevent partners from seeing each other. If you make a bid that requires an explanation, you write a note to the opponent on your side of the screen. If your partner makes an artificial bid, you alert your opponent and write down what you think it means.

When the same bid is explained on one side of the screen differently from the other, the case may have to be decided in a bridge court of law!

Take, for example, today's deal, which was played last week at the start of the Las Vegas tournament.

After three passes, South opened two notrump, which was supposed to show 20 to 22 points. He actually had 19.

His partner raised to three notrump. This was alerted on both sides of the bidding screen as a transfer to clubs. So far everything was reasonably kosher.

South bid four clubs, as he was supposed to, and North now bid four diamonds, describing a hand with six clubs and four diamonds. Still, everything was legal.

Now, however, South bid four hearts and the trouble began. This bid was alerted on both sides of the screen, but different explanations were given.

South said to East that his four-heart bid was artificial, asking for aces. North told West that the four-heart bid was a cuebid in hearts, showing the ace or king of that suit. North jumped to six clubs, and that ended the auction.

Because of the transfer, West was on lead and naturally tried the jack of spades. Declarer made 12 tricks, discarding North's hearts on his ace, king, queen of spades, and then dropping the queen of clubs.

After the hand, when West learned from East that the four-heart bid was ace-asking and not a cuebid, West complained bitterly, calling the tournament director for an adjusted score. He claimed he might have led a heart instead of a spade if he had known the true meaning.

The director, who judged that there was about a 30-percent chance that West would have led a heart, adjusted the score, giving each side 30 percent of the result that would have occurred after a heart lead (+100 to East-West for defeating the slam) plus 70 percent of the result that actually took place (+1370 to North-South for making the slam).

This ruling was appealed by East-West, and subsequently went to a committee. After hearing testimony from both sides, the committee's judges decided that a spade lead was about 90 percent, even with the right explanation, so they adjusted the scores to a 90-10 percent ratio.

But the judges also penalized North-South two points, a procedural penalty for not knowing and explaining their convention adequately.



Bearded irises this year seemed to bloom bigger and better than ever. (Karen Benzian)

Focus on the iris

GARDENING

INEZ KLIMIST

THE long blooming season of the bearded iris was really enjoyable. This year's flowers seemed to be larger and lasted longer on the stems, with more flowers on each stalk.

Irises are so easy to grow and always seem to do so well that sometimes we forget that they would benefit from some special attention.

Now that the flowers are all gone, we should think about dividing the rhizomes. If it has been more than four years since you divided your rhizomes, you should do it this summer. The best time to move and divide the plants is from soon after they stop blooming until the time when the new growth starts. If you move your irises before August, you will have little trouble.

I have often heard people say that newly divided and moved irises will not bloom the first year. Not true. If it's done properly you will have blooms right away. Pick a day that's not terribly hot, so the roots won't dry out, and perform the operation at one go. Don't leave the roots lying around in the heat.

Although irises prefer a whole day of sun, they will grow and bloom if they are given at least a half day of direct sunlight. Replanting early in the season will ensure early root development and flowers next season. Plant them where the drainage is good, preferably on a slope or on the highest part of your flower bed. Some sand content in the soil helps to ensure good drainage.

In order to divide the crowded clumps of rhizomes, lift the entire bunch with a garden fork, taking care not to injure the roots. Hose the soil off. Do not pull the rhizomes apart, as disease may enter the plant through an injury to the rhizome. Use a sharp knife or shears to separate them.

If you do inadvertently injure the rhizome, dust the wound with a bit of sulfur powder. Use a sharp pair of scissors to cut the leaves back to 14 cm.

Irises will grow in any good garden soil, but don't plant them too deep. The soil should just cover the top of the rhizome.

For the best results next year, you should give the new planting some extra food. A low-nitrogen chemical fertilizer or some super phosphate can be dug into the soil about three weeks before planting. Well-rotted manure or compost can also be used.

Avoid fertilizers high in nitrogen, especially in fall. These fertilizers will provide lots of lush green leaves, but may cause rotting in the rhizomes. Avoid grass clippings and other green manure which may pack down and trap moisture around the plant.

At about the end of February, give your irises some slow-release fertilizer, and in just a few months you will have flowers.

A READER asks: Why are hydrangea bushes pale green instead of dark green, as they are in South Africa? Hydrangeas need acid soil. If there is insufficient acid, the plants cannot absorb the iron and aluminum they need for good growth and properly colored flowers and leaves. If your hydrangea leaves are yellow and pale, give the plants some aluminum sulfate or sulfur, and throw all your used tea leaves around the plants to improve the acidity of the soil. Tea leaves are also very good for the soil.

In the mind's eye

CHESS

NICK KOPALOFF

DAVID, Levi and Michael (they asked that their surnames be withheld) are middle-aged men. They are all fine chess players who regularly compete in local tournaments.

The only thing that distinguishes them from other players is that they are blind.

One of the beauties of chess is the way it crosses the divides of age and physical disability. The young often successfully do battle with the old, as do the physically impaired with nonhandicapped.

The picture would be complete if gender could be added, but almost all female players compete in all-women tournaments.

Chess for the blind is supervised by a governing body, the International Blind Chess Players Association. Olympics are held every four years, as are the European team and individual world championships.

Chess coach Michael Knafo emphasizes that these tournaments are not organized in an attempt to further segregate the blind, but rather to prepare the players for regular tournaments.

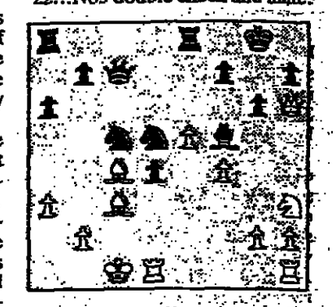
Knafo says blind chess players can hold their own in any company. "Many people cannot comprehend that it is the mind and inner vision which determine the standard of play, and not necessarily what one sees on the board." Knafo says the psychological benefits for blind children provided by chess cannot be overestimated.

"Nonblind kids play tennis, football and basketball, and blind kids are naturally excluded. The one field in which they can participate as equals is over the chess board. It is essential that chess for blind children be encouraged. By boosting self-worth and self-esteem, the blind kid can rightly feel an equal. In turn, the attitude of the nonblind is positively reinforced."

Grand master Yehuda Grunfeld is one of the country's top players. He is deaf, but his disability has never impaired his play, as the following game from the 1992 Olympics attests.

Nguyen, A – Grunfeld, Y
Manila 1992
Nimzo-Indian Defense

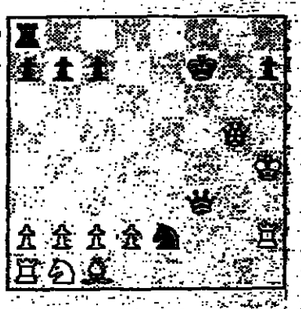
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4; the Nimzo-Indian Defense is a popular system in which black pins the knight on c3 in an effort to thwart white's attempts to seize dominance of the center by playing e4. 4.Qc2 c5 5.dxc5 Na6 6.e4 Nxc5 7.f3 d5 8.cxd5 exd5 9.a3 Bxc3+ 10.Qxc3 Ne6 11.e5 d4 12.Qb4 Nd4 13.Qb5+ Qd7 14.Nh3 0-0 15.f4 Qd8 16.Bd2 a6 17.Qe2 Re8 18.0-0-0 Nc5 19.Qh5 g6 20.Qh6 Bf5 21.Bc4 Qc7 22.Bc3; of course not 22.Bxd5 which is met by 22...Nb3 double check and mate!



22...Nxc3; obviously better than 22...dxc3 when white then captures the knight on d5. 23.Rxd4; if now 23.bxc3 Nb3+ 24.Kb2 (24.Bxb3 Qxc3 25.Bc2 Qxc2++) Qxc4 leads to mate.

23...Ne2+ 24.Kd1 Nxd4 25.Ng5 Bc2+ 26.Ke1 Rxe5+ 0-1.

FORMER WORLD champion Mikhail Tal employed the Wilkes-Barre variation of the Two-Knights defense mentioned in last week's column in a game played by telephone in 1968 against some 20,000 readers of the Soviet newspaper *Pravda*. From the following position, Tal managed only to draw the game. A Moscow schoolboy later discovered that the grand master had missed a winning line. Black to play and win.



Solution: 1...Rg8 2.Qh5+ Qxh5+ 3.Kxh5; here Tal played Ng1+ and later drew. But Vadim Brodsky showed that 1...Nf4+ 4.Kh6; 4.Kh4 h5 5.g3 Rg6+ 5.Kxh7 Rg7+ 6.Kh6; 6.Kh8 Ng6++ 6...Kg8; forces mate with Rg6 on the next move. 0-1.

A shy bird with a melodic voice

NATURE

D'VORA BEN SHAUL

IF you don't see warblers, you can certainly hear them. This large class of birds (*Sylviidae* in Latin, *zamarim* in Hebrew) are, with the exception of a few Australasian species, unassuming in color.

Often well camouflaged in drab shades of brown, olive green or gray, warblers are small and shy. But in any rural area or on any quiet urban street where there are gardens and shrubberies, their soft song is audible from early spring until late autumn.

There are 350 species of warblers, (134 in tropical Africa and 84 in tropical Asia). They are birds of the Old World; there are only two known species in the New World, both in Alaska.

Here we are blessed with 40 species of these little songbirds, which are found in all parts of the country except for the desert. Most are permanent residents.

Warblers inhabit ornamental gardens, pastures, plantations, citrus and olive groves, agricultural fields, marshes and steppes.

They feed almost exclusively on insects, which they catch while in motion. In fact, they seem always to be in motion, flitting among the foliage and rarely descending to the ground.

Warblers' nests are loose, deep structures of grass and leaves attached to branches of trees or shrubs. Some species weave a dome-shaped cover on top. The female lays a clutch of usually three to five eggs in the early spring. The white or pinkish eggs hatch after 18 to 21 days of continuous incubation, a task shared by both parents.

The adult birds also share the onerous job of catching enough insects to support their high metabolism and to feed the ever-hungry growing chicks that are hatched blind and naked. They remain in the nest for three to four weeks and become fully mature at 10 months.

Getting to know warblers is not easy, but it is a rewarding hobby. One needs a good field guide to birds, a pair of binoculars, a notebook and, if possible, a small tape recorder. Each species of warbler has a distinctive flight pattern as it flits from tree to tree, just as each species has a distinctive song. If the bird-watcher notes flight pattern, song, location, vegetation and terrain as well as color, he or she will have clues to the identity of the species.

In time, one comes to associate a certain flight with a specific song and is thus able to distinguish one species from another.

In looking for nests, it is best to use a pole about a meter or so long with a small mirror attached at an angle at the end.

This allows one to get a look inside dense foliage with a minimum of disturbance to the tenants.

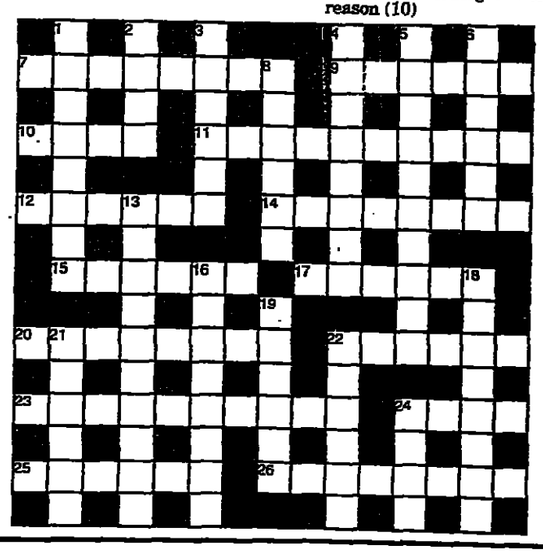
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

7 Gather orchard produce is to be made available again (8)
9 Love to meet, so it's said (6)
10 Very early bird has a point (4)
11 Explains badly re-set print (10)
12 Face a man of learning after six (6)
14 Note beer is provided for a journalist (8)
15 Perfect country environment for conservationists (6)
17 Dicky, Sue, and Sam are to take over (6)
20 "The dress of thought" according to Samuel Johnson (8)
22 A ship loaded with border plants (6)
23 Men interrupting a woman with the right corrective (10)
24 Many a politician is rather wet! (4)
25 See law-breaker as a treacherous individual (6)
26 Legal claim certain to occasion amusement (8)

DOWN

1 Being put out, rate evil member of the family (8)
2 Take a turn serving up drinks (4)
3 Exercising iron rule which is catty (6)
4 Drawing lines (3-5)
5 Where people may enjoy themselves with legitimate reason (10)
6 Get into gear (6)
8 Going around dumping rubbish on a railway (6)
13 Giving a worker time to carry on is to arouse hostility (10)
16 Bread and ale together can be so easy to digest (8)
18 The French dream for retirement—something extra always (8)
19 Make good in the matter of business raised (6)
21 Men fighting a dreadful miser (6)
22 Housing fit only for pigs went first as arranged (6)
24 Fine powder used in various industrial processes (4)



SOLUTIONS

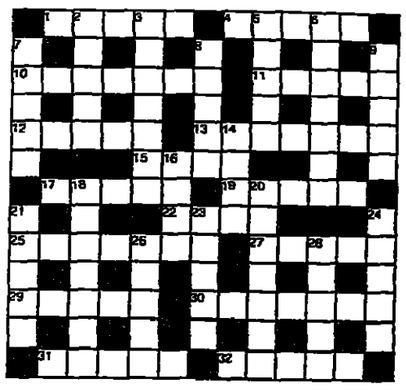


Quick Solution

ACROSS: 1 Roland, 4 Butter, 7 In any case, 9 Limo, 10 Smut, 11 Genus, 13 Phenol, 14 Phlegm, 15 Jacket, 17 Buzzer, 19 Duvet, 20 Tied, 23 Helm, 23 Decorator, 24 Gander, 25 Laxity.

DOWN: 1 Roll up, 2 Anno, 3 Daniel, 4 Back up, 5 Toss, 6 Rhythm, 7 Impeached, 8 Embezzler, 11 Gored, 12 Shout, 15 Jet-lag, 16 Tumour, 17 Befall, 18 Remedy, 21 Deed, 22 Hoax.

QUICK CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1 Astute (5)
4 Spheres (5)
10 Chorus (7)
11 Disturbed (5)
12 Dig (5)
13 Tiredness (7)
15 Stalk (4)
17 Malice (5)
19 Perfect (5)
22 Team (4)
25 Charms (7)
27 Rage (5)
29 Rub (5)
30 Regular (7)
31 Pier (5)
32 Concur (5)

DOWN

2 Appalling (5)
3 Closest (7)
5 Mature (5)
6 Pasta dish (7)
7 Wear away (5)
8 Cutting implement (5)
9 Speak (5)
14 Among (4)
16 Try out (4)
18 Feathers (7)
20 Trading (7)
21 Ornamental (5)
23 Children (5)
24 Vagrant (5)
26 Upright (5)
28 Copse (5)

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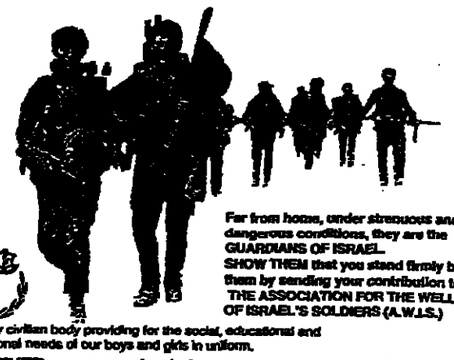
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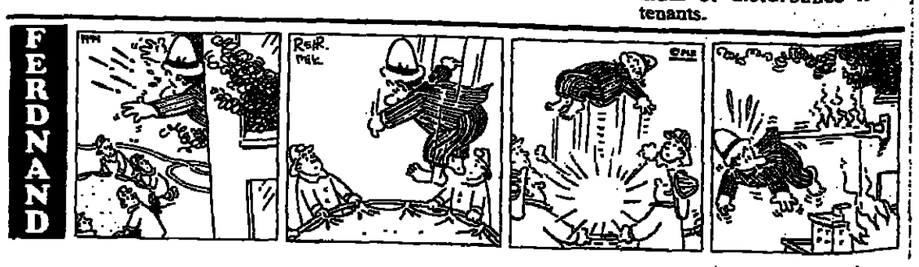
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Constructing a resort and constricting a reef

Hurghada, an Egyptian spa on the Red Sea, is being expanded as a playground for tourists, Haim Shapiro reports

TO the pounding of a drum and the music of a home-made flute, we faced the line of Egyptian Beduin dancers, shuffling back and forth and raising their voices in wild cries as Swedish and Italian tourists looked on in wonder.

The dance was the culmination of a safari into the Egyptian desert near Hurghada, a beach and diving resort on the Red Sea, south of the Sinai Peninsula. I visited Hurghada as the guest of Arkia, which is planning to organize tours there, and Air Sinai, which runs weekly flights between Hurghada and Ben-Gurion Airport.

The flights, lasting about an hour, leave Tel Aviv on Wednesday night and return from Hurghada on Saturday. According to Moshe Haggiag, deputy manager of Arkia charter, this provides the opportunity for a full three-day vacation, involving only one work day. He believes this will be particularly attractive to Israelis.

The town itself is a tourist destination par excellence. Thousands of European visitors come to enjoy the sun, the sand, the coral reefs, the casino and the discotheques. From mid-July to the end of August, Hurghada is flooded with Italians, despite temperatures which regularly soar above 40°C.

Our stay at the Hurghada Hilton Resort was in keeping with the atmosphere of the town. The hotel had not yet officially opened and there were still signs of construction, but this was nothing out of the ordinary at a site which has 13,000 tourist beds and expects to double that number by the end of the year. Indeed, one hotel manager jokingly told us that Hurghada, in Arabic, means "under construction."

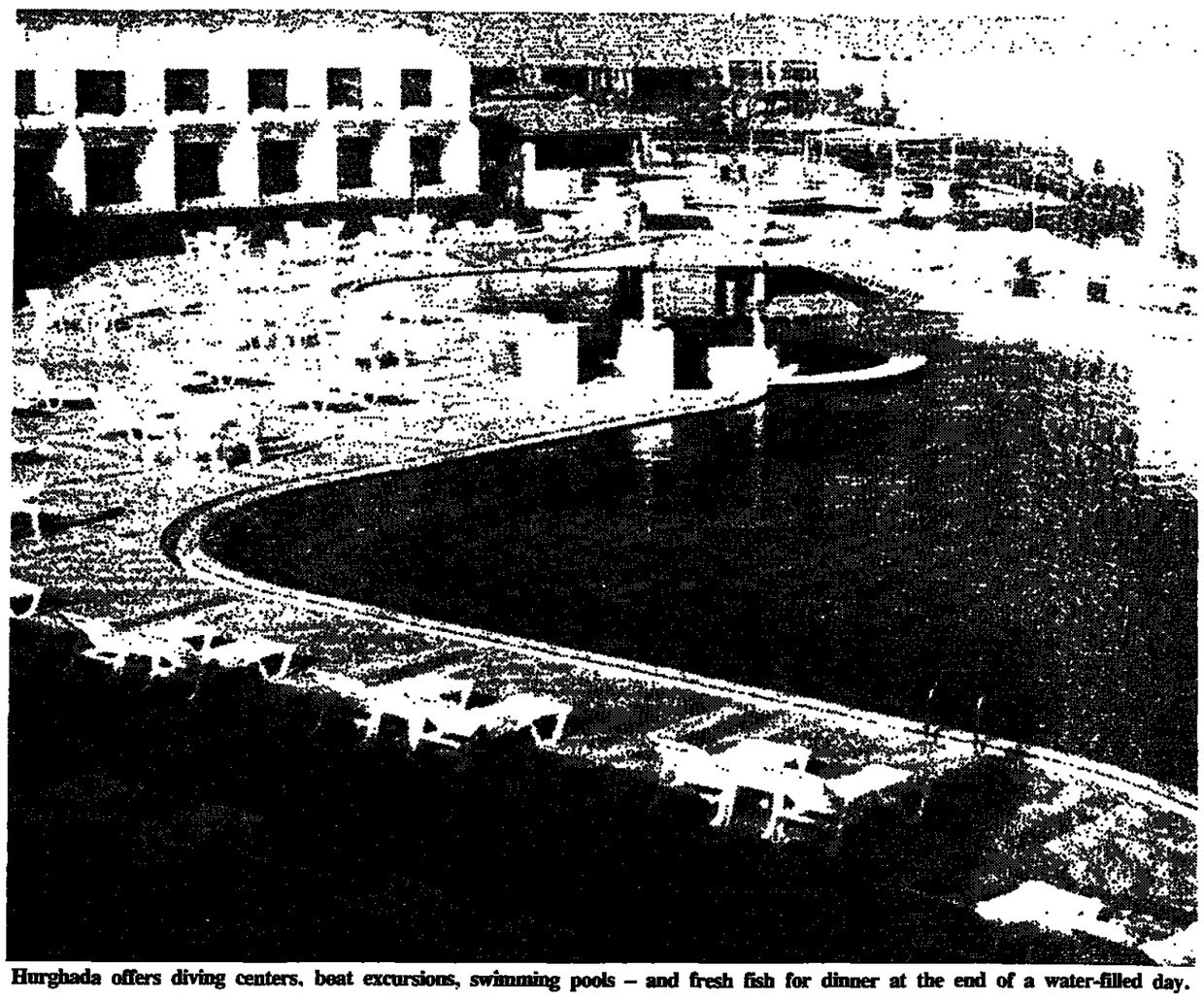
The Hilton was also typical in that it plans to offer its guests all the facilities for a complete vacation, making it unnecessary for them to leave the resort during their stay in Hurghada. There are already two swimming pools and a sandy beach, and when the hotel is completed there will also be tennis courts, a health club and a water-sports center, not to mention a choice of restaurants, a disco and a pub.

Spread over a long strip of land stretching back from the beach, the Hilton plans to provide a fleet of electric cars for its guests to move back and forth between the rooms and places like the squash courts and the sauna.

THE PROFUSION of facilities at most of the four- and five-star hotels tends to make one forget that Hurghada's original attraction was the magnificent stretch of coral reefs along the coastline. These days many of the reefs are gone, the victim of carelessness or wanton destruction. At the Hilton, the coral reef that once came up to the shore was bulldozed to create a sandy beach.

One of the hotels that has retained at least some of its coral reef is the Sofitel, about five minutes from the Hilton. However, here too the main attraction seems to be the distinctive Arab architectural style and the wide range of activities, including horse riding and nightly shows in the hotel amphitheater. The reef apparently provides little competition for the hotel pool, with its cascade.

Virtually all the hotels have diving centers, offering the opportunity to go on a daylong boat excursion, with lunch on a nearby island. The reefs may be better where these boats go; but on the one half-day excursion I went on, the reefs seemed sadly despoiled. There was a nice assortment of brightly colored fish and there were a few colored corals, but no more than one would see in Eilat.



Hurghada offers diving centers, boat excursions, swimming pools – and fresh fish for dinner at the end of a water-filled day.

Although Israelis and other foreigners visiting Hurghada must have an Egyptian visa, a compensation might be that Luxor, one of the major sites of Egyptian antiquity, may be visited on a day trip.

To say that Luxor is fabulous is an understatement.

The tombs in the Valley of the Kings provide an intimate glance at a cross section of history. The temples across the Nile from the tombs are so colossal as to dwarf the visitor into complete insignificance.

During this visit, we did not go from Hurghada to Luxor, so I can only take the word of the tour organizer that the buses are comfortable and the road smooth enough to snooze for the three hours each way on a tour that begins at 4:30 a.m. and returns at 8 p.m.

A few days in Hurghada should also provide at least some time for the favorite Israeli sport of shopping. The center of Hurghada is a bit seedy, but there are plenty of shops selling not only T-shirts and the usual tourist junk, but a wide variety of what appears to be good-quality cotton sportswear.

Since I was buying clothes for a couple of discerning adolescents, I found that my best bet was to go to a Benetton outlet.

The higher-priced clothing seems to be identical to that found downtown, but it had the treasured label.

Food at the various hotels we visited was almost always delicious and appeared far more sanitary than I have seen elsewhere in Egypt, an important factor since most of the package deals include half board.

The fresh fish is plentiful. On the other hand, although our guide assured me that there are pleasant, clean and inexpensive restaurants in town, I did not see any.

A hot spot to visit in the cool

HURGHADA can be reached by flying Air Sinai, which has a plane that leaves from Ben-Gurion Airport at 8 p.m. on Wednesday and returns at 7:30 p.m. Saturday.

Israelis must acquire an Egyptian visa in advance, at a cost of about NIS 60. Holders of some other passports, such as those of the US and Britain, may receive a visa on arrival, but the price is the same.

The prices for package tours offered by Arkia do not include $10 for transfers to and from the airport and a $15 registration fee.

High season in Hurghada for most hotels is from mid-July through the end of August.

Since it is very hot at that time, it is likely that Israelis would prefer to visit in September and October.

Prices here are for a three-night package with round-trip airfare in the low season. High-season rates are slightly more.

At the top of the scale is the Inter-Continental, a luxury establishment with Middle Eastern decor and the only casino in Hurghada. A three-night package with half-board sells for $429.

The Hilton, in international style, is the only hotel willing to sell a package with breakfast only, at $385.

The Sofitel, an informal all-facility resort whose architecture seems influenced by the fact that the architect lived for a long period in North Africa, has a three-night package for $389.

The Marlin Inn, a hotel with mixed pharaonic and Arabic influences, has a package for $365.

A daylong safari in the desert in an air-conditioned jeep sells for $25.

A daylong yacht excursion to an island with coral reefs sells for $35, including snorkeling equipment and a picnic lunch. The day tour to Luxor sells for $85. ***H.S.***

Italian cruise ship offering arias at sea

TRAVEL TIPS
HAIM SHAPIRO

A cruise for opera lovers, with on-board performances of Italian operas and operettas, is being planned on the *Italia Prima* for the sailing leaving Italy on August 20. Ports include Palermo, Alexandria, Port Said, Ashdod, Limassol, Knsadasi, and Piraeus. Prices for the 11-day voyage range from $1,480 to $3,685 *per person.*

THE WERZBERGER School of Art in Ramat Gan is organizing a study tour to Prague, including visits to and practical workshops with Bohemian glass blowers and other artists in glass. The price of the 10-day tour, planned for October, is $1,190, not including air fare.

FOR a different kind of tour of London, a restored horse-drawn omnibus, carrying 16 passengers on the top deck, operates a circular route from Westminster Abbey. A £10 tour (children £7.50) includes Parliament Square, Whitehall and Trafalgar Square, while the £18 (£14) version also takes in Waterloo Bridge, St. Paul's and Covent Garden. For bookings, tel. 0181-660-5133.

THE EDINBURGH Festival is included in a 17-day tour of the UK and Ireland being offered by Geographical Tours. The price, including flights, is $3,302.

A FOUR-DAY tour of Jordan for $329 is being offered by Nitza Tours during July. The tour includes half-board, with accommodation in a five-star hotel in Amman and a four-star hotel in Petra. The price also includes visa handling.

The company also offers a 12-day tour to Morocco, including flights and breakfast, for $1,499.

ARKIA is offering week-long package vacations to Crete from $618 and to Mallorca from $899. Both include air fare and half-board.

SWISSAIR is offering a special $399 round-trip fare on its three weekly flights to and from Geneva. The offer is good until October 23.

A VACATION in Israel can be cheaper than going abroad, if you stay at a kibbutz. The kibbutz hospitality chain, which includes a wide range of accommodation ranging from almost deluxe to slightly above spartan, is offering rates highly competitive with any package abroad. For what the chain calls "countryside hotels" the price is NIS 115 a night; for seaside "vacation villages" it is NIS 110; and for simple rooms it is NIS 70. All prices include breakfast.

You can even go abroad through a kibbutz, if you arrange a cruise on the yacht *Caesari*, which belongs to Kibbutz Sdot Yam and sleeps up to 18 passengers. The prices of excursions vary according to length and itinerary, but the basic price for the yacht is $480 a day, including the crew, but not including fuel, food, and port taxes.

Other cheap vacations in Israel are available from Tzabar, which is arranging charter flights to Eilat, with the cost of a four-night midweek or three-night weekend vacation starting at NIS 665, including flights.

Rich Yemenite-Jewish history displayed in modest museum

SEE IT HERE
HAIM SHAPIRO

WITH the recent immigration of some of the remaining Jews of Yemen, the miracle of this amazing Jewish community and its survival has again come to the fore.

A small idea of the traditions of this community, its scholarship and home life, the way people lived and the way they earned their livelihood, may be found at the Association for the Heritage of Yemenite Jewry in Netanya.

To say that it is housed in humble quarters would be an understatement. It occupies a group of apartments reached through a dark passageway in a building at 11 Kikar Ha'atzmaut.

The association not only serves as a museum but is also a publishing house, producing a wide variety of books and periodicals, ranging from scholarly studies to personal recollections. It also sponsors seminars.

The collection is eclectic, with objects from other Jewish communities sometimes added. Yehiel Kessar, director of the association, explains that these items have been donated, and those in charge feel obliged to display them.

There are several examples of a Yemenite shofar, made from the horn of the mountain goat, several portraits in micrography, the art of making a picture from tiny lines of writing, and a series of manuscripts from a culture which had no printing press.

One room is a reconstruction of a *diwan*, the family living room in which the men would study during the day and the entire family would gather in the evening to sing songs and recount tales. There is the traditional table around which the scholars sat, each looking at the one book from a different angle. Also displayed is the jewelry for which the Yemenite Jewish artisans were famed, with techniques handed down from father to son.

An extensive collection is devoted to the kitchen and its various utensils. There is also a recreation of the lavishly decorated room in which the new mother was isolated during the period after birth, when she would be visited by her women friends and family who brought her food and told her the news of the day.

One of the largest collections comprises examples of different types of clothing from different parts of Yemen. Kessar explains that in those parts of the country where Moslem fervor was the strongest, the Jews were ordered to wear black clothing, while in the less fanatical areas the Jews tended to wear colorful items.

One of the most rewarding parts is the association's collection of computer programs about Yemenite Jewry and their history. This is especially important in transmitting an impression of a culture in which literary development far outstripped any material possessions.

The museum is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sunday through Thursday. Admission costs NIS 5 for adults, NIS 3 for children.

Prague hosts festival marrying the Bible with the arts

PRAGUE will host a cultural festival called "The Old Testament in the Arts" from August 28 to September 17.

One of the highlights of the festival in the beautiful Czech capital is the opera *Nabucco*, in which Verdi set an Italian libretto, based on the episode of Nebuchadnezzar and the Jewish exile from Jerusalem, in his own dramatic style.

In Bernstein's *Jeremiah Symphony*, with the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra under David Shallon, the composer uses traditional motifs from the cantillation of the Prophets as thematic material.

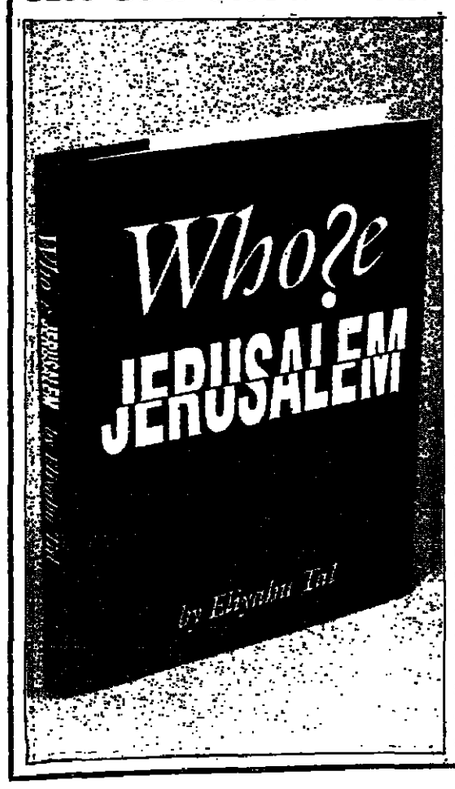
Davidde Penitente by Mozart, however, is a mass whose original liturgy has been replaced by Latin Psalm texts.

Stravinsky's setting of the Psalms in his *Symphony of Psalms* projects a ritual Catholicism, whereas Bloch's *Schelomo* strives for a rhapsodic expression of Hebrew prayer. Both works will be performed by the Czech Radio Symphony at the historic Rudolfinum.

There will be performances of music and dance, as well as art exhibitions. The highlight of the film and theater events is a marionette version of the sacrifice of Isaac.

Ensembles from many European countries and Israel will participate, as will top Czech groups, including the Czech Philharmonic Choir and the Czech National Ballet. *Max Stern*

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The pipeline of money has sprung a serious leak

Fund-raisers at this weekend's annual Assembly of the Jewish Agency are seeing red – the color of the agency's ink, Winston Pickett reports

JEWISH philanthropists, activists and fund-raising professionals from around the world are gathering in Jerusalem this weekend for the 25th annual Assembly of the Jewish Agency. One issue is guaranteed to drive virtually every plenum, seminar, panel discussion, brainstorming session and resolution on the program: money.

Small wonder. Since taking over the helm of the Jewish Agency/World Zionist Organization in February, Avraham Burg has been forced to announce a whopping $30 million shortfall in this year's budget. That means across-the-board cuts in virtually every program, from immigrant resettlement and absorption to summer Israel Experience programs for youth from abroad.

Jewish Agency officials say the money crunch may be even worse than that; the real deficit is more likely to be between $60m. and $80m.

And just as likely, wherever shortfalls of such magnitude occur, there is bound to be a lot of reassessment, if not finger-pointing, to evaluate what went wrong.

Chief among the reasons for the deficit is the most obvious one. Money flowing to the Jewish Agency is down because of less cash entering at the other end of the pipeline: money from the United Jewish Appeal, which runs the annual campaigns that raise the money for Israel through the more than 180 Jewish federations throughout the US, and money from Keren Hayesod, the equivalent of the UJA in more than 40 Diaspora communities in Europe and around the world.

Just as predictably, the cash crunch analysis will center on what is seen as a growing and disturbing trend: North American Jewish communities are sending less money to Israel because they are keeping more for needs closer to home. Less than a decade ago, most federations sent about 60 percent of funds raised in the annual campaign to Israel via the UJA. Now the average is about 40 percent. That trend is clear in the difference between the Jewish Agency's anticipated income of $230m. in 1994 and the $201m. it actually received.

Does that mean Israel has lost its clout or sex appeal for Diaspora Jews or, worse, that it is somehow slipping as the core of Jewish identity? Have Diaspora Jews become more insular, even selfish?

Jewish sociologists tend to blame changing generational needs. Gone, or steadily dwindling, they say, are the numbers of wealthy Jews who lived through World War II, the Holocaust and the birth of Israel. For them, donating to Israel was a given. In the hearts and minds of subsequent generations – especially baby boomers and those younger than them – Israel has even less of a pull.

In fact, according to sociologist Gerald Bubis, only 25 percent of American Jews aged 28 to 47 feel an intense emotional attachment to Israel, whereas for 55- to 64-year-olds, the numbers jump to 44 percent. Moreover, says Bubis, founding dean of the School of Jewish Communal Service at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Los Angeles, they are showing it in their giving preference. While American Jews have more money than ever before, only about a third give to Jewish charities. A full two-thirds give to non-Jewish ones.

Within the Jewish Agency, the "who lost the Jewish dollar?" debate tends to look for other parties to blame. Sociological factors may play one role, the argument goes, but the real culprit must be the failure of what is known in UJA/Federation-speak as the "centralized campaign."

To be sure, many Jewish Agency professionals compassionately acknowledge that a host of economic factors, including a recession in the early 1990s, loss of federal dollars to social programs, and the overriding push for emergency cash for efforts such as Operation Exodus all forced Jewish federations in the US to perform a kind of economic triage to keep local services afloat. If less money from annual campaigns reached Israel, well, that was understandable.

But what has led to the conclusion that the classic umbrella or community-chest-style federation campaign is not working is a startling statistic for the last decade showing a robust *aggregate* growth in charitable dollars streaming to all Israeli charities.

"Find me the documents that say that Israel has lost its appeal," says Shlomo Gravetz, head of the WZO's Youth and Hehalutz Department. "Every figure I have seen says just the opposite. In fact, money to private institutions in Israel is now more than the money coming to the Jewish Agency. *We're* the ones who are not attractive or effective any more."

Gravetz was referring to an internal agency study by board member Salai Meridor that has thrown the 66-year-old institution into a state of deep soul-searching. Based on an examination of foreign dollars coming to Israel as recorded by the Bank of Israel, a nine-year comparison shows that:

- In 1985, the amount of money earmarked for the giant "national" tax-exempt institutions – such as the Jewish Agency, Keren Hayesod and the Jewish National Fund – was $400m. In 1994, the amount rose to $425m. Growth: $25m.
- In 1985 moneys coming to private Israeli institutions amounted to $175m. By 1994, that figure had expanded to a staggering $675m. Growth: $500m.
- When compared with each other, whereas in 1985 moneys to "national" institutions like the Jewish Agency outstripped moneys to private institutions by $225m., by 1994 it is the "private" donations that surpass the "national" ones by $250m.

For some in the agency, these statistics have simply added fuel to the "what went wrong?" debate. And when the Jewish Federation of Middlesex, New Jersey, announced in March that it would bypass the Jewish Agency conduit altogether with a $22,000 gift to settlements in the territories, some even wondered if the days of the centralized campaign weren't numbered.

Up until the Middlesex move, money raised in the US by federations and sent to Israel stopped at the Green Line, as mandated by the charter of the United Israel Appeal, the organization that allocates federation-raised money to this country. Would other federations follow suit with gifts similar to Middlesex's direct gift to Yesha Heartland/One Israel Fund? Yesha Heartland claims it raised up to $3m. from nonfederation US donors last year. For others, however, the amount of nonfederation dollars streaming to Israel has set off alarm bells of a different kind and prompted a radically different form of analysis.

"What this says is that the very nature of fund-raising has changed in front of our own eyes," says Jewish Agency secretary-general Howard Weisband. That more donors are giving to specific projects in Israel can only mean one thing, he says: a greater desire for accountability and a more personal interest in the kinds of projects being funded.

One person who is not surprised by that revelation is sociologist Gary Tobin of the Cohen Center for Jewish Studies at Brandeis University.

Since he began tracking donor attitudes at Jewish federations throughout the US more than a decade ago, Tobin has seen a trend away from reflexive, no-questions-asked, crisis-oriented blanket fund-raising when it comes to Israel.

Instead, writes Tobin in "American Jewish Philanthropy in the 1990s," a report published in April, federations need to develop more "donor-designated projects" that enable Jews to become more personally involved in where their money goes.

Israel's fund-raising appeal "must be presented in the form of specific programs," he writes. "Effective fund-raising for Israel will not result from the claim that Israel is in a constant state of crisis, especially given the prospects for peace. The opportunity to build schools, religious institutions, programs and institutions in Israel are essential elements of the fund-raising themes of the future."

One fund-raiser who has heard the alarms is the UJA's executive director, Rabbi Brian Lurie. A former head of the San Francisco Federation, Lurie became persona non grata with the Jewish Agency for directing $100,000 of donor money to specific projects in Israel outside agency channels in 1986. One project Lurie now advocates as part of his "Living Bridge" program is Partnership 2000, which twins Jewish federations with one of 27 regional development zones in Israel.

For Lurie, the critical challenge to centralized fund-raising and maintaining the Jewish Agency channel is not the phenomenal rise in donations to private institutions in Israel or even separate funding like Middlesex – it is the two-thirds of USJews who give their money to non-Jewish causes. While the total amount of philanthropic dollars for Israel is more than a billion, he says, there is at least that much waiting to be tapped.

"The real issue isn't that we've got competition from the 'American Friends of' efforts – God bless them," he said in a telephone interview. "It's that Jews are being invited into every non-Jewish cultural and educational institution in America to play dominating roles, and in turn asked to give a lot of money.

"What we have to do is talk to them and convince Jews that the $5m., $20m. or $50m. they can give to programs in Israel is as compelling as giving to their university."

When Kollek didn't go to synagogue, the synagogue came to him

GRAPEVINE

GREER FAY CASHMAN

FIVE years ago, when British property developer and philanthropist **Fred Worms** and his wife **Della** celebrated a special occasion in their lives, they asked then Jerusalem mayor **Teddy Kollek** what gift he would like to receive. Kollek, who had enlisted the couple's aid for many city projects, said he would like to pray in the synagogue in Cochin, south-west India. To which Worms replied, "Fine, I'll give you a first-class ticket." But Kollek explained that he didn't want to go to Cochin; he wanted the synagogue to come to Jerusalem. Thus began a long and expensive labor of love which culminated last Friday when Worms affixed the mezuza on the doorway leading to the magnificently restored ancient Cochin synagogue in the Israel Museum.

NEWLY ARRIVED Indian Ambassador **Shivshankar Menon**, who was warmly greeted at the opening of the Cochin synagogue exhibit by members of Israel's Indian community, said the exhibition was particularly significant for India "because we have a self-image as a mosaic of cultures and faiths, so it's good to see an exhibit which confirms your self-image." Likud MK **Dan Meridor**, who chairs the board of the Israel Museum, pointedly welcomed Menon to Jerusalem, rather than to the museum itself.

WHO IS missing from the lineup, anchorman and producer **Amos Ettinger** asked **Shmuel (Samluck) Maharosk**, 25-year manager of the Maccabi Tel Aviv basketball team at a *This Is Your Life* recording session last Sunday. The reply was, of course, **Aulcie Perry**, the popular and talented high-scoring hoopster, who was under contract to Maccabi Tel Aviv for 11 years.

Ettinger, famed for his ability to pull rabbits out of a hat, said all efforts to bring Perry to Israel had failed. The former star, now on parole after long incarceration on drug-related charges, was not allowed to leave the US. Ettinger told Maharosk, but he had arranged a satellite hook-up so the two could talk to each other.

Perry's face duly appeared on screen, and seconds after the conversation, the lanky player, looking not quite as lean as he was in 1986 when he left Israel, loped into the GG Studio in Neveh Ilan. The atmosphere was electric. The audience, which included other members of the Maccabi constellation, like **Lou Silver**, **Willie Simms**, **Tal Brody**, **Lavan Mercer** and **Mickey Berkovitz**, rose as one to embrace Perry; and as a grand finale to the program, the American quintet mounted the stage together with Maharosk to sing a rousing and spontaneous rendition of "We Are the Champions." The program will be aired at the beginning of the next basketball season on Channel 1.

"YOU KNOW how many times I've thought of you in the last 10 years," an elated Perry exclaimed to Maharosk. Perry became a household name in Israel not only because he was regularly featured on the sports pages of the local papers, but also because he was frequently mentioned in the social columns together with his former companion, top-flight model **Tami Ben-Ami**, whom he also met up with during his three-day visit here. Sportswise, Perry recalled, his most wonderful memory was 1977, the year Maccabi first won the European cup.

HEBREW UNIVERSITY vice president and former Israel ambassador to the US **Moshe Arad**, in introducing Prof. **Sergio Della Pergola** and authors **A.B. Yehoshua** and **Moshe Shamir**, who were participants in an HU panel discussion on "Future Directions in Israel-Diaspora Relations," noted wryly that the hawkish Shamir was appropriately seated on the right of the dais, whereas the dovish Yehoshua was on the left. What was important, interjected Shamir, was not where they were seated but who indeed was right and who was wrong.

BEST KNOWN for his expertise in Jewish demography and continuity, Della Pergola and members of his family clearly personify continuity in relation to the Hebrew University, where he is chairman of the Avraham Harman Institute of Contemporary Jewry. His grandfather, Raffaello Della Pergola, who was chief rabbi of Alexandria, affixed his signature to the dedication scroll placed in one of the HU cornerstones in 1918. This week, a chair in life sciences was dedicated at the HU in the name of his parents, Massimo and Adelina Della Pergola, and among those attending the dedication ceremony were his children **Rafi** and **Shula**, who are HU students.

AT ANOTHER HU event this week – the dedication of the Halbert Center for Canadian Studies, sponsored by the Canadian government together with the chairman of the HU board of governors **Ralph Halbert** of Toronto and his wife **Roz** – outgoing Canadian Ambassador **Norman Spector**, who winds up his term of duty at the end of July, could not resist the opportunity to demonstrate his fluency in Hebrew. In fact, his were the only Hebrew remarks. Spector lauded the long-standing close relations between Israel and Canada, but few of his fellow countrymen in attendance could understand what he was saying.



Shipping magnate Ted Arison (second to left from flag) and 'Jerusalem Post' executive editor David Bar-Illan (far left), as they were in the IDF's Armored Corps, as Nazareth surrendered.

SHIPPING BILLIONAIRE and long-time expatriate **Ted Arison**, who returned to Israel two years ago after a four-decades sojourn in the US, yesterday shared memories of the days when he served in the Jewish Brigade and subsequently became one of the first officers in the Seventh Brigade of the Armored Corps of the fledgling IDF.

Arison was in Latrun, where he fought during the War of Independence, as guest of honor at the IDF Armored Corps Memorial Site and Tank Museum, where a concert was given in tribute to IDF servicemen. Occasioned by the dedication of a plaza in Arison's name, the concert was performed by the Miami Philharmonic Orchestra under the baton of **Michael Tilson Thomas**, who in 1987 founded the New World Symphony Orchestra that was sponsored by Arison and his various cruise lines.

Arison has maintained a close connection with the Armored Corps Association throughout the years and has been a generous contributor to its projects. One of his old army buddies is *Jerusalem Post* executive editor **David Bar-Illan**.

CHAMPAGNE IS not usually served for brunch at the American Colony Hotel, but since the occasion was the celebration of a milestone birthday for Belgian Consulate staffer **Irene Israeli**, the hotel served champagne with the birthday cake. Israeli was delighted that so many of her friends could take time out mid-morning, but what pleased her most of all was the unexpected arrival two days before the party of her sister, **Ingrid Palache**, from Amsterdam, and her brother, **Charles Sommer**, from somewhere on the Dutch/Belgian border. The three siblings had never in their adult lives celebrated a birthday together. Israeli was so thrilled by their four-day visit that she is going to insist they get together for someone's birthday at least once every two years.

FOR THOSE unfamiliar with either the donor or the recipient, the situation was somewhat confusing, since both, though not related, are called **Ralph Klein**. One is Ralph Klein, premier of Alberta, Canada, who is leading an Alberta trade mission to Israel. The other Ralph Klein is the Maccabi Tel Aviv basketball coach. The two met at the Carlton Hotel in Tel Aviv at a dinner hosted by the Jewish communities of Calgary and Edmonton, where the Canadian Klein presented the Israeli Klein with a stack of basketballs to be distributed to Israeli youngsters in disadvantaged neighborhoods.

WHETHER THEIR home in Jerusalem's French Hill will be able to accommodate the 300-plus Brandeis University alumni residing in Israel, is a matter of conjecture. But **Ron** and **Amy Kronish** happily say the more the merrier (spouses included) for the June 26 reception in honor of newly appointed Brandeis president **Yehuda Reinharz**, who wants to strengthen ties between the university and its alumni who are either living or studying in Israel.

IF HIS former constituents living in Israel were permitted to vote in his country's upcoming elections, Georgian President **Eduard Shevardnadze** would have a much stronger chance of being returned to office. Accompanied by President **Ezer Weizman** and Israel's most prominent Georgians, including MK **Ephraim Gur** and Kupat Holim Clalit chairman Prof. **Dan Michaeli**, Shevardnadze wound up his three-day state visit with a tour of Ashkelon, where a large segment of some 80,000 immigrants from Georgia reside.

Showered with gifts and an outpouring of affection, Shevardnadze was visibly moved. But the number of gifts arriving at the presidential table was too much for Weizman, who with an impatient gesture put a stop to the practice, declaring: "Enough presents. Where will he put them all?"

YAD IZHAK Ben-Zvi, which specializes in researching the history of the Land of Israel in general and Jerusalem in particular, jumped the gun this week, beating the Jerusalem Municipality in spearheading the launch of Jerusalem 3000. At a gala event in the presence of national and international notables, President Weizmann was presented with the first copy of *Yerushalayim, Ir Va'am*, ("Jerusalem, City and People"), a comprehensive 3,000-year history of Jerusalem from the period of King David to modern times. English and Russian versions are scheduled to appear in the near future.

David Ben-Ami Endres
Auctions
17b Gordon, Tel Aviv
Tel. 03-5220113

Auction No. 24
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To be offered: Objets d'art and porcelain, silverware, Judaica, European pictures and art, jewelry, furniture and old books.
Viewing:
Saturday, June 24, 8 - 11 p.m.
Sunday, June 25, 2 - 10 p.m.
Monday, June 26, 2 - 10 p.m.
Tuesday, June 27, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Viewing and auction at 10 MacDonald, Ramat Gan 03-7511887

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He understood art, defended justice

LORD Goodman died last month after a long period of debilitating physical difficulties. Throughout his sickness he remained mentally alert and completely himself.

Lord Goodman was a deeply valued personal friend for many years. He was also a devoted friend of Israel and of Jerusalem. An adviser to prime ministers, foreign ministers and civic heads, he was one of Britain's outstanding legal minds and a celebrated defender of justice.

He was a great connoisseur of the arts, in recognition of which he served for many years as the head of Britain's Arts Council. In addition to being an outstanding speaker, his unique character made him a friend to all the important political personages of the day.

He grew up in a Zionist family and he remained faithful to his youthful convictions throughout his life. Until the very last moment, Lord Goodman hoped to visit Jerusalem once again.

The world has lost an extraordinary man.

Teddy Kollek

هكذا من الأصل

THE JERUSALEM POST

BUSINESS & FINANCE

FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 1995

Two petitions charge illegality of pension reform

EVELYN GORDON

TWO petitions to the High Court of Justice yesterday asked that the government's pension reform plan be declared illegal.

One petition, by Lahav – the Association of the Self-Employed – also asked the court to order the government to stop issuing subsidized bonds to the pension funds, and to set up a state commission of inquiry into the funds' collapse. The other petition was filed by Prof. Shmuel Kaniel of Hebrew University and five other people.

The petitions, both prepared by attorney Prof. Michael Corinaldi, charged that the pension reform plan is both illegal and unreasonable.

On the legal side, the petitions said, the plan's projected outlays – estimated by the Treasury at NIS 70 billion to NIS 100b. over the next 70-80 years – are not mentioned in the budget. According to State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat, committing to these funds without a budgetary line item violates Basic Law: The Budget.

Furthermore, the petitions argued, the Treasury has promised to cover all of the pension funds' unmet obligations. This constitutes a government guarantee, they said – and by law, a government guarantee must be for a specific sum, rather than open-ended; it must be less than the ceiling stipulated in the law; and it must be approved by the Knesset Finance Committee.

On the procedural side, the petitions charged that any major economic decision requires the input of the government's economic adviser, Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel, but Frenkel never prepared an opinion on the issue.

In addition, they said, the government based its decision on faulty information, and did not consider alternatives, such as direct subsidies to pensioners.

Finally, the petitions argued, the decision discriminates against people who used other vehicles for long-term savings instead of pension funds. This, said Lahav, constitutes the majority of the population, and especially the self-employed, who were in the past not allowed to join pension funds.

The petitions stressed they do not dispute the government's obligation to guarantee that people who invested in pension funds get their money back with interest. However, they objected to the guarantee of full benefits and to the issuance of the subsidized bonds.

Shohat, Frenkel clash over inflation

JOSE ROSENFELD

FINANCE Minister Avraham Shohat clashed yesterday with Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel over the need to further lower the government's inflation goal.

Shohat said the government's stated goal of 8% in 1994 was a mistake.

During deliberations at the third annual Caesarea meeting of the Israel Democracy Institute, Shohat blamed Frenkel for his recommendation of the 1994 inflation goal, which resulted from a mistaken analysis of the low consumer price indexes at the time of the decision in mid-1993.

Shohat's angry reaction follows Frenkel's recent statements that, based on the present level of inflation, it would not be too presumptuous to set a goal of 6% to 9% for inflation next year. Responding to criticism that the central bank was setting the inflation goal independently of the government, Frenkel said it was only a suggestion.

"Since the goal should represent progress, the goal for next year should follow the trends of consistently lower inflation level," said Frenkel.

"I wouldn't sign off on this statement," replied Shohat. He insisted that the goal must be set according to existing economic circumstances. "I would not set rules written in stone without looking at what is happening in the economy," said Shohat.

To prove his point, Shohat indicated that this year's inflation goal was higher than in 1994.

"Inflation now stands at about 11% to 12%, so why a goal of 6% to 9%?" asked Shohat.

The Bank of Israel was also the target of criticism for its interest rate policy, both from the Treasury and the business sector.

Treasury director-general David Brodet said the central bank made three major mistakes since 1993. According to him, the central bank lowered interest rates too much in 1993, contributing to inflation. It then reacted too gradually to the problem, and from the end of last year until now, it pushed interest rates very high without allowing the shekel to revalue enough.

Brodet said the central bank had a mistaken notion that it can lower basic inflation, which excludes housing and fruit and vegetable prices. "This is a fundamental error in the Israeli context, where basic inflation is different from other places," said Brodet.

According to him, basic inflation is a result of the existence of cartels and monopolies and the extensive linkages in the public sector salary structure and in the financial markets, which cannot change regardless of interest-rate policy.

Likud MK Silvan Shalom shot back at Brodet, saying that instead of attacking the Bank of Israel, the Treasury should bear the blame for inflation, as it has failed to make the required structural reforms and reduce government spending.

Federation of Israeli Chambers of Commerce President Danny Gillerman accused the central bank's stubborn anti-inflation stance of threatening economic prosperity by "seeing inflation as the end-all of economic policy."

On a personal note, Gillerman, a member of the central bank's advisory committee, complained that the Bank of Israel has consistently ignored the committee's recommendation to lower interest rates. He also accused Frenkel of using the International Monetary Fund "to attack the economy at a sensitive time."

An angry Frenkel responded, "you have said things that come close to personal incitement together with accusation of seeking ill of Israel to the world. No one here is trying to prove who is the greater Zionist."

Don't forget the many costs that come with casinos

COMMENT

NEIL COHEN

AS the lobby seeking to push through legislation to legalize casino gambling picks up momentum it is worth taking a closer look at the US experience regarding the costs and benefits of casinos.

Since a 1987 Supreme Court ruling allowed Indian tribes to open casinos, the level of interest in legalized gambling in the US has become so high that the Federal Reserve Bank in Boston recently convened a conference on the subject.

While the benefits have been well publicized, officials who attended the conference said the adverse economic and social costs of the spread and popularity of gambling are only now beginning to appear.

For example, one state attorney-general said the benefits of casinos are often "highly exaggerated," while the costs emerge more gradually.

"Every attorney-general has recorded dramatic increases in costs that are never taken into account when [the gaming industry] comes into town and announces the increase in jobs and all the other benefits that can occur," he said.

Towns and cities near casinos report more street crime, counterfeiting, prostitution, drug use, and burglaries, he said.

"The fact is that in every city that casinos have been introduced in any significant way, crime in the streets has gone up," he said.

The Rhode Island attorney-general said towns near the Foxwoods Casino just over the border in Ledyard, Connecticut, have suffered increases in street crime and domestic conflicts.

Casino representatives countered that when any major new attraction – gambling related or otherwise – is opened, drawing large numbers of visitors, crime inevitably rises. They cited Disney World as an example.

But a researcher into the impact of the casino business noted that the overall cost to society, from casino-related crime to the costs of compulsive gamblers, still outweighs the benefits.

It is impossible to avoid a sense that the debate on the issue has been largely superficial and highly interest-driven. And in a society where crime is already rising sharply, that is not sufficient.

Eisenberg, Maiman to set up factories in China

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

SHOUL Eisenberg, who controls the Israel Corporation, and Yossi Maiman, the owner of Merhav, yesterday signed agreements to establish factories in China.

Eisenberg plans to construct a hydrothermal power station as part of a large irrigation project in China.

Merhav signed an agreement to establish an oil manufacturing and vegetable drying factory.

The deals were signed in the presence of Chou Yubeng, the Chinese minister of water resources, who is visiting Israel this week.

Agriculture Minister Ya'acov Tsur and Yubeng signed a joint cooperation agreement in the water and irrigation field yesterday.

According to the deal, Israel and China will cooperate in using new technologies and water-saving technics.

Yubeng said Israeli know-how will increase the Chinese annual agriculture water supply by 50 billion cubic meters.

In addition, there will be joint cooperation in managing water reserves and increasing agriculture growth in dry areas.

In other news, Eisenberg has expressed interest in purchasing the government's holdings in Tahal, the water development company.

The Water Authority and Government Company Authority is currently consolidating a sale plan for the company.

Toys 'R' Us opens in 2-3 months

MARTHA MEISELS

WITH international executives on hand, the local franchise holder for Toys 'R' Us formally announced yesterday that the first branch is slated to open here "at the end of the summer" – defined as mid-August to mid-September.

Leon Koffler of the Super-Pharm group said the initial store, in the Haifa Bayside area, is expected to have an annual turnover "in excess of $10 million, though perhaps not in the first year."

The second branch is to open before Pessah at Kibbutz Shefayim, near Netanya. Within three or four years, there are expected to be five or six branches.

The franchise for Israel is held by Koffler and David Solomon of Philadelphia.

Koffler declined to state the investment involved. The price for obtaining the franchise, he said, "was confidential information sealed in the contract."

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (22.6.95)

Currency (deposit for:)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar ($250,000)	5.125	5.000	5.000
Pound sterling (£100,000)	4.625	4.875	5.375
German mark (DM 200,000)	3.000	3.000	3.250
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	1.875	1.875	2.250
Yen (10 million yen)	–	–	–

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (22.6.95)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS Buy	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS Sell	BANKNOTES Buy	BANKNOTES Sell	Rep. Rates**
Currency basket	3.4396	3.4951	—	—	3.4733
U.S. dollar	2.9383	2.9857	2.88	3.03	2.9670
German mark	2.1232	2.1575	2.08	2.19	2.1442
Pound sterling	4.7233	4.7995	4.64	4.87	4.7741
French franc	0.6061	0.6159	0.59	0.63	0.6117
Japanese yen (100)	3.4930	3.5494	3.43	3.60	3.5284
Dutch florin	1.8972	1.9279	1.86	1.96	1.9157
Swiss franc	2.5682	2.6097	2.52	2.65	2.5948
Swedish krona	0.4064	0.4130	0.39	0.42	0.4105
Norwegian krone	0.4763	0.4840	0.46	0.50	0.4809
Danish krone	0.5434	0.5522	0.53	0.56	0.5484
Finnish mark	0.6892	0.7004	0.67	0.72	0.6961
Canadian dollar	2.1289	2.1633	2.09	2.20	2.1512
Australian dollar	2.1166	2.1508	2.08	2.19	2.1394
S. African rand	0.8074	0.8185	0.73	0.82	0.8149
Belgian franc (10)	1.0335	1.0522	1.01	1.07	1.0440
Austrian schilling (10)	3.0201	3.0689	2.96	3.12	3.0507
Italian lira (1000)	1.8047	1.8339	1.77	1.86	1.8242
Jordanian dinar	—	—	4.14	4.43	4.3170
Egyptian pound	—	—	0.83	0.91	0.9188
ECU	3.9199	3.9832	—	—	3.9587
Irish punt	4.8159	4.8936	4.73	4.97	4.8629
Spanish peseta (100)	2.4415	2.4809	2.39	2.52	2.4635

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

THE WOMEN'S MARKET
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One highlight for the 10,000 English-Speaking Israelis coming to The Event on October 10 at the Wingate Institute will certainly be TODAY'S WOMAN/TODAY'S FAMILY PAVILION.

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Bids are invited for the supply of 11 kV HRC Oil Fuses - Tender No. 20/95

A copy of the specification and conditions of tender can be obtained from the Secretary of the Board of Directors, 15 Salah el-Din Street, East Jerusalem, Tel. 282335/6/7, until July 2 1995.

Bids should be submitted not later than 12 noon on July 31, 1995.

ds-3301/p

Jerusalem District Electricity Co. Ltd.
Tender No. 22/95
33 kV Single Core XLPE Cables

Bids are invited for the supply of 33 kV Single Core XLPE Cables - Tender No. 22/95.

A copy of the specification and conditions of tender can be obtained from the Secretary of the Board of Directors, 15 Salah el-Din Street, East Jerusalem, Tel. 282335/6/7, until July 2 1995.

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ds-3302/p

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WORLD MARKETS REPORT

• US DOLLAR - The dollar did not react negatively to weak trade figures mid-week and was steady as the US-Japan trade talks began. This follows some weakness associated with Fed Chairman Greenspan's comments that the US may be entering a mild recession, which were perceived as signalling an early interest rate cut.
• US T-BONDS - The T-bond market is undergoing a small correction after its midweek surge. The market is evenly-balanced on the prospect of a rate cut at the July 5/6 FOMC meeting. The US economy has weakened in the second quarter and this should keep the market firm in the short-term.
• STERLING - The British currency may see some further weakness below DM2.21 before it rallies.
• UK GILTS - The Sept. long gilt future is trying to penetrate the upside at 106-00, but it is unlikely to make much headway. There is not much news to provide interest, which is instead focused on cricket and rugby.
• UK EQUITIES - The FT-SE 100 Index has proved unexciting but resilient this week. Turnover has been low and more impetus is required for any break above 3400. The technology sector that has been leading Wall Street looks set for a correction. The FT-SE 100 Index has bounced off support around 3380, but may be vulnerable to a correction to 3350 before it continues its up-trend to 3425. Our clients are looking to buy Bass (BASS.L, 913p) on any market setback. There is a stock shortage in the market, while on fundamentals, the group is trading well. Its Holiday Inns' operation particularly is performing strongly.
• ASIA-PACIFIC - The Asian markets have a strong lagged correlation to US T-bond market moves. The up-trend is intact as long as T-bonds remain firm. However, in Hong Kong, there is a marked lack of interest from both local and overseas funds, and the index is heading towards the bottom end of its trading range. In Kuala Lumpur, the Finance Minister's stock market liberalization measures were not as extensive as some had hoped. We do not expect an early break up through resistance at 1090 on the KLCI index. Our clients are looking to buy blue chip stocks such as Renong (RNGS.KL, MYR4.70), and Land and General (LAND.KL, MYR9.70) for the eventual upside break. In Thailand, General Elections are to be held on July 2 - rising stock markets have accompanied the last three elections. Thai equities are rated towards the lower end of a five year trading range despite recent strong rallies. Our clients are interested in Bank of Ayudhya (BAYI.BK, Bt125) on 11.2x 1995 EPS (foreign premium 5.8%).
• GOLD - Bullion is testing support at US$390/oz. and will likely break down. However, buying should soon emerge at the lower levels.
• PFM ISRAEL GROWTH FUND: Net Asset Value as at June 19, 1995 - US$5.50

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Key Representative Rates

		Change
US dollar	NIS 2.9670	- 0.30%
Sterling	NIS 4.7741	+ 0.01%
Mark	NIS 2.1442	+ 0.34%

INT'L STOCK MARKETS

New York market indexes

	Last	Change
DJ Industrials	4589.64	+42.54
DJ Transport	1756.87	+27.95
DJ Utils	205.71	+3.56
DJ Comp	1518.84	+18.84
NYSE Industr	373.57	+3.84
NYSE Transport	282.88	+3.82
NYSE Comp	294.92	+3.31
S&P 100	526.03	+6.29
S&P Spot index	551.06	+7.06
AMEX Comp	485.97	+7.9

NYSE stocks

	Unchanged	Advances	Declines
Share movements	+746	1514	715
Volume up (in 1000's)			236888
Volume down (in 1000's)			81718

Other stock market indexes

	Last	Change
FTSE 100	3403.6	+25.5
Tokyo Nikkei average	14933	-18.2
Singapore all-share index	512.13	-5.7
Hong Kong Hang Seng index	9158.55	-84.7
Israel Index	143.87	+0.8

Israeli stocks in NY

NYSE / AMEX	Last	Change
Am Is Pep	54.75	+0.5
Ampal A	6.6875	-0.125
Aryt	1	0
BioTechnology	3.125	-0.125
Cannel Corp	9.625	0
Frutarom (electrochem)	3.875	+0
Elscint	2.75	-0.125
Etz Lavud	8	+0
Etz Lavud A	7	+0
Laser T.	7.375	-0.0625
PEC	24.625	+0.375
Tadiran	19.125	+0.375
NASDAQ / over-the-counter		
Aladdin	20.75	+0.375
4TH. Dimension	4.5	-0.25
Ampal B.5	17.75	+1
BVR	5.5	+0.3125
Comverse	18.25	+1.4375
Data (Defense)	11.375	-0.125
ECI	14.375	+0
Edunetics	1.4375	+0
Edu-Soft	9	+0
Electric Fuel	10.75	+0.5
EFFI	48	+1.25
Elbit	24.25	-0.5
Elron	10.125	+0
Eshed Robotec	0.875	+0
Fibronix	0.875	0
M. Systems	5.25	-0.125
Gilat	21	+0.875
ISG	3.875	-0.0625
Geotek	8.125	-0.1875
Health Tech	1.875	+0
Ickan	0.3125	-0.0625
IIS	3.5625	-0.1875
Indigo	48.25	+0.5625
Interpharm	16	0
Ituranco	0.5	+0.03125
First Isr Fund	12.5	+0
Isrelc	0.2578	+0.03125
Lannet	23.875	+0.375
Lanoptics	13.6875	-0.0625
Magal	4.625	+0
Mediia-Al	1.4375	0
Mercury	21	+0
Magic	10.75	+0
Orbotech	12.5	-0.25
Oshap Tech	3.125	+0.1875
Rada	4.25	-0.125
Robomatics	0.75	0
Sapiens	3.4375	-0.1875
Scitex	21.125	+0.125
Silicom	3	+0.375
T.A.T. Technol	3.5	+0.5
Tim Vit	7.125	+0.0625
Teledata	9.25	+0.375
Telegraph	1.625	-0.125
Tower Semicond	31.375	+0.375
Teva	38.375	+1.25
TVG	0.875	+0.125

(All listings are closing quotes)

Commstock Trading Ltd. (Date 22-JUN-95)

INT'L MONEY MARKETS

Dollar crossrates (US)

		Last	Change
Pound:	spot	1.5973	-0.0132
	Sep.future (CME)	1.595	-0.0114
D-mark:	spot	1.3972	+0.0137
	Sep.future (CME)	0.7177	-0.0062
S-franc:	spot	1.1577	+0.0138
	Sep.future (CME)	0.8862	-0.0101
Yen:	spot	84.55	+0.62
	Sep.future (CME)	0.011952	-8.4e-005
CanDlr:	spot	1.3746	-0.0074
	Sep.future (CME)	0.7281	+0.0013
AusDlr:	spot	0.7212	+0.006
	Sep.future (CME)	0.7188	-0.004
Fdranc	spot	4.8963	+0.0473
N Lira:	spot	1636.5	+5
Nkr:	spot	1.5634	+0.0144
AusShlg:	spot	9.835	+0.05
Rand:	spot	3.8425	-0.0135
ECU:	spot	1.3213	-0.0117
Bonds	future	113.24	+1.07
S and P	future	555.45	+6.5

Libor rates

		Last	Change
Dollar	3 months	6	0
Dollar	6 months	5.875	0
Dollar	12 months	5.8125	+0.0625
Sterling	3 months	6.6875	-0.0625
Sterling	6 months	6.875	0
Sterling	12 months	7.1875	-0.0625
S-franc	3 months	3	-0.0625
S-franc	6 months	3.0625	0
S-franc	12 months	3.25	0
D-mark	3 months	4.5	0
D-mark	6 months	4.4687	0
D-mark	12 months	4.5625	0
Yen	3 months	1.1875	0
Yen	6 months	1.125	0
Yen	12 months	1.0625	-0.0625

(Spot market listings are from approximately 23:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)

Commstock Trading Ltd. (Date 22-JUN-95)

Foreign financial data courtesy of
CommStock Trading Ltd.
Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds
34 Ben Yehuda St., Jerusalem,
Tel. 02-244963, 03-5758826
Fax. 02-244876

INT'L COMMODITIES AND METALS

US commodities

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Jul) (CEC)	1315	-15
Coffee (Jul) (CEC)	151.15	+1.35
Sugar no.11 (Jul) (CEC)	12.1	+0.08
Wheat (Jul) (CBOT)	410.25	+12.5
Orange Juice (Jul)(CEC)	100.85	-0.5
Crude oil light (Jul)(CEC)	18.01	0

London commodities

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Jul) (LCE)	930	-4
Coffee (Jul) (LCE)	2617	+5
Wheat (Jul)(LCE)	127	+0.5
Brent crude oil (Jul)(IPE)	-	-

Spot market metals (US)

		Last	Change
Gold:	spot	386.85	-0.9
Silver:	spot	5.38	-0.09

New York metal futures

	Last	Change
Gold (Aug)	391.9	-0.6
Silver (Jul)	5.357	-0.078
Platinum (Jul)	441.8	0
Palladium (Sep)	156	-0.85
High-grade copper (Jul)	1.4575	+0.0485

London metal fixes

	Last	Change
Gold AM fix	389.8	-0.8
Gold PM fix	390.05	-1.05
Silver fix	5.42.8	-0.2
Platinum PM fix	441.25	-1.75

Month in parentheses signals contract exp. date

(Spot market listings are from approximately 23:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)

Commstock Trading Ltd. (Date 22-JUN-95)

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading

Commercial Banks

Name	Price	%chg
FirstInt2	1.10	
IndDevBK	23816	1.0
IndDevDD		
IndDvPrD		
MunsC	188.50	-0.9
MunisenC		
OHH	149295	
Trade	849	
TradeC	164.00	

Mortgage Banks & Finance

Name	Price	%chg
Adanim	376894	-1.0
Carmel	951	-1.2
CarmCp3	278	
DevMtB	20444	
FirstMB	43859	
IndepMB	74771	-0.2
J IsrnC	128.00	
JerniBnk	216	-0.9
LaumiMBR	52714	-2.2
Mizrchr	7347	-3.0
TefahotR	178359	-3.2

Financial Institutions Insurance

Name	Price	%chg
mivtahsha	1082	
Ayalon	688	-2.0
AyalonC		
Eitan	375	
EitanC1	206	0.5
Hadar1	817	-1.2
Hadar5	774	-0.5
HamshiraC	222	0.5
Hamshinr1	1583	
Hamshinr5	1478	
Menorah1	984	
Menorah5	909	
Phoenin1	2680	
Phoenin5	2540	-4.6
Sahar	650	
Zion5	10708	-10.0

Trade & Services

Name	Price	%chg
Isashmira	435	-0.2
Mehilau	1027	1.8
mtways	2889	
Bazan	2327	-2.5
BezekW2	217	
BndWritC1	136.50	-0.4
BndWritC2	131.00	
BondWrin1 L	3183	1.0
Citpt0.1	41700	-1.5
Clal Comp	12230	4.9
ClalCmpC	160.00	
CoolSearch	1364	1.5
Crystal	1918	-1.0
DanHotl	1980	1.3
DCL	781	2.5
Elad	152.50	
Feldman	200	
GanHadar	2237	
GanHadC	215	0.5
GlasgG2		
GramitC1	113.00	
GramtW2	103.00	-3.3
HGRC1	133.00	1.1
HGRW1	49.80	13.2
HGR1	342	10.0
Ingamal	3199	-4.0
IngamaS	2975	-5.3
Lntsr	1918	4.2
Matil	1057	-1.0
Medtech	414	
MedtechW	653	4.9
MLLC1	163.50	0.6
MLL1	327	-0.9
Repac	1895	2.2
Resnet	76.50	-1.9
ReshetC1	118.00	-0.8
Team	2421	3.2
TeamC1	166.00	
Telsys	1287	-0.8
Topline	348	
Yasid	603	-0.5
YasdC1	122.50	-0.8
Yasna	1838	7.5
Yeda1	1072	
Yona	954	-0.7

Industrials

Name	Price	%chg
ashotashk	164.00	-1.2
electracp	2686	
Imco	449	-3.0
isotag	588	
wtrgsr	133.50	
yehodasd	547	-2.5
AckersC	123.50	
Alliance	1022	0.3
Alony	253	
Alumit11L	11220	-1.3
Angel	10199	
Argaman	451	
Aryt	278	3.3
ArytC1	54.50	2.8
Ashpiy	1885	2.0
Ashpiyc1	179.00	1.4
Ashtrom	541	3.0
Atzmon	339	-4.0
AtzmonW1	101.00	
Azimuth	440	-4.8
Bekaon	561	-4.3
Biodo	200	
BoutiqueC1	204	0.5
CablesCo	134.50	
CablesW3	250	-12.1
Canstine	528	
Cargal	1201	-2.0
Casiro	1482	-8.7
Chem	368	1.9
ClalBuC	283	1.2
ClalBuG1	2208	-1.2
Clnd Cs	181.00	-1.4
Cyclone1	8210	
Cyclone5	3966	
CyclonC1	166.00	0.6
CyclonC2	104.50	
Delroncl	186.50	
Delron1	2219	-1.0
Decision	402	-2.2
Delta 1	1691	
Delta3	1625	
DubekB	13549	1.0
DubekR	14069	6.0
Edgar	136.50	-3.1
EdgarC2	136.00	
EldanTec	50.50	
Elcomd	6155	
Elctrocs	660	3.0
Elctr 0.5	8678	1.0
ElecarG4	288	
ElecC		
ElndRtstc	486	-4.0
Elrot	325	-1.8
FertizeS	927	
Fertil0.1	1161	
FeuchtW1	9368	-4.7
Five J	328	1.9
FrutarC1	219	-8.4
FrutarC2		
GibonC1	92.50	
GibonSab	391	-1.8
GibonW2	230	
Golan	799	-2.0
Hamashl1	1245	3.5
HamshoN	385	-0.3
Hatshot5	170.00	
Hod	388	
Hotli	186.00	-2.9
IsrCam1	3242	
Isr-ora	974	-2.0
Kadmany1	269	
Kadem	6568	
KademC2	192.00	0.6
Kmor	582	0.7
KlamC1	136.00	-1.1
Klil	2967	
Klils	2583	
Lipski	2265	-3.8
Lodzle1	1363	
Lodzle4	1247	
LuhotGal	90.00	-3.2
MacPell	371	9.1
Magam	493	
Maldmal	1158	0.3
Maxima5	1071	1.2
Mei Eden	1390	2.0
Modgal	1004	4.0
Mozaica1	393	-1.0
Mozaica5	354	
NegCeram	495	0.5
Nahsuht1	1070	-1.0
Nahsuht5	748	
Nevtol	1291	-1.2
Nicol	1912	0.3
NMC	517	
Olis	749	2.2
Ophir	305	
Orbit1	345	7.8
Ortiz	413	2.5
PeckerW2	84.00	0.2
Pargod	1958	
PazChen	536	
Pika	1237	2.5
PolgatA	265	0.4
PolgatC1	183.50	-0.5
Polygon	615	-1.0
PolygonC	168.00	0.6
PCB	782	
Rebirstor	119.50	10.1
RebirstW	28.40	20.0
Rentfin1	222	-0.4
Sanot	1418	-0.3
Sanot5	1337	-2.0
Satan	491	
Shaman	14025	
Spcrax	397	4.5
Suntrust	5645	-1.7
Tasi	32725	
Tadiran	523	
Tambour	742	1.0
Taste	725	-8.7
Tedes	1393	6.0
TowaC		
Tiv	602	
Toblas1	486	
Topper	128.50	-4.9
TATC1	181.00	1.1
TAT1	601	6.0
Unibar1	1245	-8.0
UnibarS	364	-1.9
Vitalgrl	473	-0.2
Vulcan	282	
VulcanC	171.00	
Wardlron	18535	
WardnW3	9000	-1.0
YtongC2	357	
Zahavi	221	5.2
Zilkat	1929	0.7
Zilks5	1781	0.2
Zkdn1	3623	
Zkdn5	3651	
ZionCsb1	478	-2.1
Zoharind	411	-1.9

Property, Building & Agriculture

Name	Price	%chg
buildpro	484	
darban1	2108	0.2
jacobsltr	156.50	-5.1
mivod	295	-0.8
tzarfat	403	2.8
wallson	79897	
yulang	197.50	
Alrov	1720	1.0
Amram	211	-0.5
Arazim C1	174.00	0.6
Arlieln1	1360	1.0
Assia	1351	-2.0
AssiaC4	136.50	
AssiaW2	130.00	
Azsuta	1045	
AzsutaC1	216	
AzorgrC1	281	-0.4
AzorrProp	5851	1.0
Baranc1	879	2.4
BaysideS	32384	0.5
BayerdC1	32310	
BenYakir	1816	9.3
BenYakW1	238	20.2
BenYhirC	92.50	8.2
BldgRes	3117	3.6
CohenDev	449	1.4
Control	1626	4.8
DanKhar	1437	1.5
DanKharC	189.50	
Darad1	180.50	-0.6
Dunbar	5074	1.5
DunbarCw		
Engel	567	
Gazit	497	3.4
Goldhous	288	
GldHousC	193.50	0.3
Ibrahim	2013	
IbrahmC	219	0.5
IsrasC1	187.00	-2.6
Israel.5	5392	
Isras1	5984	-1.0
Jaysour1	143.50	-10.0
Jordan	554	2.8
LuzmC1	106.50	0.5
Luzsick	279	9.8
Lzhldn5	1.48.50	8.9
Lumir1	3902	
MalibuC2	121.00	0.4
Malibu1	832	1.0
MerLezC2	98.00	
MerLezW3	114.00	
Mirrav	10520	1.5
Mistrneal	209	
MTM	2186	
NeotAviv	1885	-2.0
Ofz	287	-0.3
PtOr	6663	-3.0
RedSea	574	
Rogovin1L	1306	4.0
Rogovn5	1281	-2.0
Rotem	370	-4.8
Shaked	375	
Teshluz	643	2.1

Investment Companies

Name	Price	%chg
teva	1041	
Ackerst1	984	
Ackerst2	893	-0.5
AlnerC	485	-0.2
Ampa	99332	0.7
Arad	6084	-2.5
Azr aC2	178.00	1.1
ClalW3	293	-1.0
Clal50	7995	
DanberC	214	0.5
Dantax1	2554	5.8
Elbrn	4189	1.0
Emsh	194.50	
ExportC4	218	-8.1
Hasavn	2033	10.0
Hilan	399	4.9
HlanW4	234	
Hnon5	9272	
Isrcal	1096	1.5
IDLDB	186.00	
JoslC1	186.00	
JoslC1A	199.00	
Karclan1	315	-5.7
Klal	327	
Magor1	2282	5.0
Magors	1954	
Mdtet	462	-0.2
OclfC1	128.00	0.8
OclfW1	2320	-0.5
Olor	13987	
Pamel0.1	1094	3.0
Rim1	336	
Rim4	283	
SaharDev	2003	3.5
Securits	1772	
SecuritsC	123.50	0.8
SecuritsW	283	5.0
SAPANHASP	1014	
TayaC	257	
TzurC1	185.00	
TzurSHmr	99.50	
Unico	5652	3.2

Oil Exploration

Name	Price	%chg
MGN1	2509	

PARALLEL LIST Trade & Services

Name	Price	%chg
alfadnd	662	
arkia	1189	1.5
gltek	405	-0.2
Hdcins.	124.50	
Isasbetns	121.00	
michwahl	230	
tim	551	-1.1
AstanW1	709	
Cotstec	720	
Dlsfin1	2.80	3.7
Dsmol	1480	-1.6
Data	1172	-1.3
Elbtech	345	7.7
Greenbrg	480	-3.8
ILDCHOT	451	3.7
Klnd	179.00	
Kopel	210	-0.9
KopelC1	181.50	-0.3
MZPK	481	
Mrun1	260	1.1
Regency Ho	142.50	
TrendLin	1481	

Property, Building

Name	Price	%chg
a.dori	170.50	
atlsrnhetz	87.00	
grandcir	145.50	
pandor	598	
Ackr	239	8.8
Bar—Tron1	1878	-3.0
Caesarea1	5169	7.0
Dmly	906	
GezzW1	275	
GzzC1	282	0.4
ICPS	20493	
Lesnich	176.50	0.6
Lwtsat1	917	
Melisron	776	2.0
Rassco	1657	
Scandia	131.50	-9.6
ScandiaC	110.00	0.9
Unicorn31	131.50	
Unicorn1	124.50	-0.4
Unicorn5	104.50	
UnicorW3		

Industrials

Name	Price	%chg
aboodisgn	80.00	-2.2
kadoorlegn	341	0.9
ilpman	1247	10.0
maanhld	720	1.6
nisco	1818	4.7
phylon	275	10.0
reichert	448	
techsn	815	7.2
tchnauer	659	-5.0
viemorx	925.00	
zlomatal	1852	-3.0
Adumim1	271	1.9
Baruch1	1397	8.7
Baruch5	606	1.3
Brrabr1	2301	-1.1
Dexter	1694	2.5
Elbarn	179.00	-0.6
Gail	180.00	-0.3
Kling1	831	-0.7
Lavie1	2979	3.0
ManCr1	153.50	0.3
Mam1	163.50	
MLT	1318	
Nkia	25000	0.7
Ntaxsh01	198.00	
Orchlab	626	
Orezit	278	
OrazitC	99.00	
OrdaPrnt	1650	1.2
Pollsr1	573	
Poalsbn	83.00	-1.8
Shlador	133.50	9.9
Tibnwal	252	-3.8

Investment Companies

Name	Price	%chg
Ildar	718	-3.0
marathon	88.50	
Atlan	1703	1.0
Bllryen	81891	
Mlsiga	105.50	-4.1
Optima	149.50	1.0
Regent1	337	
Ylslum	99.50	-7.9

Oil Exploration

Name	Price	%chg
Avrar	3.70	
DKOEx1	2450	-4.0
Naphtha	28.10	-0.4

Two-sided trading

	AFTERNOON			MORNING		
Name	Price	% Change	Volume Shares	Price	% Change	Volume Shares
nacional	637	-5.0	15000	637	-5.1	31968
Abjac	15.3		110000	15.3		494496
Ackerlin	391	0.2	30000	391	0.3	57039
Afris 0.	382184	-1.5	155	380345	-2.0	96
Afrlsr	343573	-1.2	48	342703	-1.5	29
Agan	4807		400	4807		16178
Agis	2216	0.2	3000	2216	0.3	14541
Azorim	3664	0.7	24000	3637		8491
ALPM	16081		2400	15880	-1.2	2335
Bezek	778	1.0	507500	770		242915
Cables	1763		16000	1758	-0.2	37178
Clal Ele.	32538	-1.0	2200	32667		3221
Clal Tra	784	-1.2	4800	786	-1.0	8518
Clal 10	8034	-0.2	4800	8054		5794
Clallins	1132	1.0	6000	1132	1.0	20261
Cldstr 5.	2105	-3.5	2400	2105	-3.5	19034
Clinds	1784	-1.5	40500	1784	-1.5	11675
CoOp	1606		4800	1606		15559
Danber 5	2423	4.0	32000	2385	1.5	9299
Dead Sea	877	-1.5	60000	881	-1.0	17003
Degem1	990	3.0	120000	981		33233
Delek	8817	-0.7	7380	8884		3773
Discinv	20152	-1.5	5280	20459		4573
Elbit	24224	-0.7	7600	24224	-0.7	3739
Elco	9902	0.2	720	9902	0.3	1843
Elite 5	1310	-1.7	45600	1293	-3.0	31443
Elron	10206	-0.5	4500	10154	-1.0	6761
Evergr n	2531	-1.0	1300	2531	-1.0	13573
Export	1404	-0.7	2800	1404	-0.8	19109
FeuchtW5	7009	2.0	5000	6872		1048
Fibi	46695	0.2	1015	46569		910
Formula	1474	0.2	12000	1470		17127
FrstInt1	38038	-1.7	280	37942	-2.0	521
FrstInt5	37504	-2.0	225	37504	-2.0	425
Frutarom	1115		7500	1115		44712
Gahelet	6514	-2.5		6514	-2.5	90
General	8788			8788		1257
Granit	552	-1.0	6000	552	-1.1	17706
Hapoalm	470	1.0	304500	465		163493
Hapolm	8924	0.5	3000	8880		5964
IndBldg	403	-0.2	240000	408	1.0	311074
Isramco	3.1	0.7	3300000	3.1		5484886
IsrCorp1	24715	1.0	1820	24592	0.5	2281
IsrCorp5	23833	0.2	350	23774		880
IsChem	246		390000	246		382072
IDB	1060	-1.0	57000	1068	-0.3	87499
IDBDev	5349	-0.5	9300	5376		9941
ILDC	961	-2.2	24000	963	-2.0	57760
JEC	991	0.7	72000	986	1.2	30236
JOEL	126.0	5.0	374000	120.0		359298
Kardan5	305	-4.0	11000	306	-3.8	77042
Klan	738	-1.2		738	-1.2	13323
Koor	25345	-0.7	8880	25537		5785
Leumi	355	0.5	356500	353		184094
Lifshtz1	211	1.2	178500	208		172041
Makhteah	1717	0.2	47000	1713		75291
Malbu5	840	2.0		840	1.9	14858
Maman	783	-4.0	16000	761	-4.3	42376
Merit1	1937	-1.7	800	1941	-1.5	8634
Meshov	466	-1.0	22000	469	-1.1	56106
Mehadrin	16353	-3.0	2160	16353	-3.0	868
MelrEzra	1885	-2.0	1800	1885	-2.0	13479
Mishkan	35815			35815		889
Mivtah	1498	2.7	16800	1485	1.8	28808
Muitlock	1081	1.0	16500	1080		12477
NatolBDS	5.3	-1.0	2070000	5.4		1480956
Ocif	7421	-1.2	660	7400	-1.5	1803
Ormat	594	1.0	180000	570	-3.1	52329
Osem	2282	-0.2	4800	2297	-0.5	6727
PazoilEx	84.5	9.7	240000	84.5	9.7	364016
Packer	13973		450	13973		1678
Periclas	1966	-0.5	8100	1966	-0.5	5233
Petrchem	1648	0.7	74700	1636		39110
Plryon	10601	0.7	1800	10522		2883
PolgatB	268	0.2	38000	265		73802
Rogosin	2457	-3.0	44400	2634	4.0	63320
Secom	326	-0.7	11000	326	-0.6	85325
SalaPump	106.0		105000	105.5	-0.5	151229
Shilon	8997	-1.0		8997	-1.0	1590
Steel	270	-2.0	7000	270	-1.8	106545
SupersIB	5645	-0.2	3800	5659		9424
TefahotB	188612	-1.2		188612	-1.2	99
Tempo1	1453	-2.5	8400	1445	-3.0	10816
Teva	108521	-0.7	4448	109068	-0.2	2486
TAT5	329	4.7	110000	330	5.1	98926
Urdan 0.	462	0.5	92000	458	-0.4	102899
Ytong	880			880		31300

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TOURISTS, short-term rentals, 2-6 rooms, furnished. ☎/fax 02-6512267; 02-790441, 050-383380.

HAVE A FOOTHOLD IN ISRAEL!

FOR SALE IN JERUSALEM

- SHAAREI HESSED, 3,+ hall, 2nd floor, bldg. rights, for renovation, $236,000.
- TALBIEH, 3 1/2, garden, 1st floor, cupboards, for renovation, $295,000.
- REHAVIA, 5, duplex, terrace, view of Knesset, like new.
- GIVAT HAMIVTAR, villas, from $515,000, unique opportunity, largest selection.
- REHAVIA (Diskin), 4 ½, view of Knesset, cupboards, storeroom, parking, $400,000.
- TALBIEH (Disraeli) 4 ½, Arab house, 160 sq. m., view, $700,000.

ANGLO-SAXON REAL ESTATE AGENCY LTD
2 Hasoreg St., Jerusalem
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OLD TALPIOT, bargain, 3 + 2 half rooms, 1st floor; BAKA, 4, Arab house, garden, private entrance. ABU TOR, ☎ 02-734207.

SPECIAL OFFER - REHAVIA - last 2 luxury apartments, new building, 3, private garden, storeroom, $298,000; 3, entrance level, high ceilings, balcony, $288,000. Exclusive to ISRA-BUILD, ☎ 02-666571.

LUXURIOUS * SALES, short/long-term rentals, "American Realty," customized service. ☎ 02-820126; Fax 02-243228.

ABU TOR, 4, view, balcony; BAKA, 3 + studio apartment, garden. ABU TOR ☎ 02-734207.

RAMOT ARAZIM
JERUSALEM
Villa for Sale/Rent
350 sq.m. built, 270 sq.m. garden, 7-9 rooms + basement for office, clinic or separate unit; swimming pool; two parking places.
Tel. 02-860862

REHAVIA, 6, entire ground floor, high standard, new, balconies, garden, Tel. 02-634116.

NEAR PRESIDENT'S HOUSE, luxurious new apartment, fully equipped by interior designer, swimming pool, parking, $690,000. Tel 02-233555; 050-284755.

OLD KATAMON, 4, 2nd floor, Shabbat elevator, south facing, succa balcony, a/c, quality finish, quiet. Exclusive to CAPITAL (via SHIRAN), ☎ 02-794911.

OLD TALPIOT, 4, 2nd floor, good layout, balconies, $255,000. 02-732838 (NS).

HAR NOF PRESTIGIOUS villa, 12 rooms, central air conditioning, Tabu. ☎ 02-6512598, NS.

WOLFSON, 5 1/2 + ATTACHED STUDIO of 3 1/2, 190 sq.m., 3 bathrooms, ground floor, $750,000. American Realty, ☎ 02-820126; fax 02-243228.

CENTRAL - LUXURY APTS/penthouses, swimming pool, gymnasium, doorman, security. American Builders, ☎ 02-820126; fax 02-243228.

ARMON HANATZIV, 4, excellent condition, new kitchen, beautiful view, 2nd floor, ☎ 02-721836, NS.

CASPI STREET, attractive penthouse, 6, terrace and view. Exclusive in SHIRAN through YEELIM REALTY, ☎ 02-259288.

NEW MALHA, cottage, 6, spacious, large garden, separate unit, $439,000. Exclusive in SHIRAN through ANGLO-SAXON, ☎ 02-251161.

REHAVIA, LUXURIOUS PENTHOUSE, 8, 250 net sq.m., private parking, $1.5 million, "American Realty." ☎ 02-820126; fax 02-243228.

BAKA, 5, sunny, quiet, new, balconies, 1st floor, $385,000. ☎ 02-732608 (N.S.).

HAR NOF, BEAUTIFUL GARDEN apartment, 4.5 rooms, ground floor, seperate entrance, superb location, $275,000. ☎ 03-9366298.

PISGAT ZEEV, CENTER, COTTAGE, 5, private heating, yard, balconies, immediate. ☎ 02-6512446; 02-850267.

SHIMONI - LUXURIOUS, EXCLUSIVE, 3 1/2, 125 sq.m., closets, elevator, $295,000. American Realty, ☎ 02-820126; fax 02-243228.

GIVAT MORDECHAI, 5 ROOMS, VIEW, 3rd floor, north/south, from January 1996. Tel. 02-789067, NS.

TIMESHARING, own an apartment for life during the holiday season in magnificent Hotel Lev Yerushalym. GAL HED (Maldan), ☎ 02-255068.

KIRYAT SHMUEL (TCHERNICHOVSKY), prime location, immediate, 3, 2nd fl., very quiet, large balcony. 02-618435.

BEIT HAKEREM, very special, 8 plus dining room, garden, swimming pool, garage. Exclusive in SHIRAN through Anglo-Saxon ☎ 02-251161.

REHAVIA, penthouse, luxurious, 7.5 (250 sq.m.), quiet, view, parking, elevator, near synagogues. Exclusive in SHIRAN through Anglo-Saxon ☎ 02-251161.

EIN KEREM, huge living-room, view, building rights, separate studio. Exclusive to Shiran through Anglo-Saxon. ☎ 02-251161.

REHAVIA NEXT TO WOLFSON, 4, exclusive building, storeroom, parking. ROMAN REALTY Tel. 02-634077.

JEWISH QUARTER, lovely, spacious, 3-bedrooms, duplex, good location, $305,000. ☎ 02-289731, 02-285405.

RAMOT 02, cottage, 5 + storeroom, garden, large salon. $380,000. Pearl Skoinik Realty. ☎ 02-865552.

GIVAT MORDECHAI, 6, cottage, private entrance, storeroom, covered parking, $405,000, ☎ 02-787134 (NS).

SAN SIMON, 4 rooms, 1st floor, $235,000, no agents. ☎ 02-784497.

SAN SIMON, 4, 2nd floor, elevator, beautifully renovated, quiet, south facing, covered parking, storeroom. Exclusive in SHIRAN through CAPITAL, Tel. 02-794911.

REHAVIA, luxurious penthouse, 8, 250 net sq.m., private parking, $1.5 million. AMERICAN REALTY, ☎ 02-820126; Fax 02-243228.

IR GANIM, LUXURIOUS 4 1/2, expandable to 9 rooms, view, $195,000. American Realty, ☎ 02-820126, fax 02-243228.

EFRAT, DEKEL, cottage, 6.5 rooms, balcony, view, garden. Tivuch Miryam, Tel. 02-9931833.

REHAVIA, 3, 2nd fl., spacious, abundant greenery, well lit, large porch, $270,000. Exclusive in Shiran through Idan. ☎ 02-734834-5.

NARKISS REAL ESTATE
Center - 4, 1st floor, balcony, spacious
Rechavia - 5.5, unique, guest quarters, view
Old Katamon - 3, private entrance, garden
Ein Kerem - House, garden, building rights
Baka - 3, arab house, garden, bldg. rights
19 Narkiss St. Jerusalem
Tel: 02-249249, Fax: 02-259585
MALIN

RAMOT B, Aliyat Hanoar, cottage, 4 + dining niche, porch, large potential for adding on, immediate occupancy. $285,000. ☎ 02-832669, evenings, NS.

GIVAT ORANIM, cottage, 4½ + terrace, northern view, possible 5th room on roof, exclusive to SHIRAN through BEN DOV ☎ 02-631664.

CENTER OF BEIT SHEMESH, villa, 4, improved, well-kept, 125 sq.m. + 500 sq.m. garden, view, storeroom, possibility to build on, only $190,000. Exclusive to MISHKAN REALTY, ☎ 02-9915591.

habitat
REAL ESTATE
* MUSRARA - EXCLUSIVE ! $270,000
4 (120m), high ceilings, PERFECT FOR OFFICES ! big balcony, quiet, fine location. GOOD CONDITION
* HAR NOF - PRICED TO SELL ! $288,000
5 (115m), eat-in-kitchen, 2 WC's, 4th fir, fit private heating, storeroom, view, 2 BALCONIES !
* RAMOT - LOVELY COTTAGE $350,000
5 (130m), en-suite bedroom, 2 WC's, quiet street kitchen cabinets, storeroom, maintained GARDEN
* WOLFSON APARTMENT $600,000
spacious 174 meter apartment on high floor large salon, amazing views, IN GOOD CONDITION
* HOLYLAND - UNDER CONSTRUCTION
7 (300m), luxurious villa, terraces, garden parking, views, storeroom, NEW ! SUPERB LAYOUT !
* WOLFSON VILLA $785,000
5 (170m), fully furnished, Knesset view, machsan private heat, own covered parking, PRESTIGIOUS
MALIN
wolfson shopping mall • rechavia
jerusalem tel: 611222 fax: 611176

REHAVIA, UNDER CONSTRUCTION, luxury preserved house, 2 exclusive apartments, elevator, storeroom. Exclusive AMBASSADOR ☎ 02-618101.

TALBIEH (near Laromme), 4, comfortable and elegant, balcony, covered parking and storeroom. AMBASSADOR ☎ 02-618101.

HABITAT ☎ 02-611222. REHAVIA, renovated stydio apartment, easy access, prime location. Immediate $125,000.

OPPORTUNITY!! HOLYLAND! spectacular villa still being built, breathtaking view, large garden, elevator, private parking. Ofer Realty (Maldan) ☎ 02-388802.

HABITAT ☎ 02-611222, spectacular, new, private villa, nine rooms, swimming pool, garden, $1,300,000. Private mortgage.

ARNONA, superb 5 room cottage, basement, garden. Exclusive T.A.C. ☎ 02-631764

TALBIEH; 3 beautiful, dinette, South, balconies, superb location. T.A.C. Tel. 02-631764.

HABITAT ☎ 02-61122, MUSRARA, four rooms, terrace with view, good condition, bright, $270,000. Exclusive to SHIRAN.

HABITAT ☎ 02-611222, REHAVIA (Metudela). Four rooms, 120 meters, patio, airy, view, storage, $500,000. Exclusive to SHIRAN.

SHA'AREI HESED, 8-room house, interior designed, move-in condition. Exclusive in SHIRAN through "Steinberg Realty" ☎ 02-617756 Fax 02-662265.

HABITAT ☎ 02-611222, EAST TALPIOT, four spacious rooms, quiet, good condition, $275,000. Exclusive to SHIRAN.

TALBIEH (Hanassi), 4, luxurious, balcony, view to Knesset, $348,000. Exclusive in SHIRAN through Anglo-Saxon ☎ 02-251161.

SHMARYAHU LEVIN, semi-detached villa, 5 + 3, view to forest, immediate, $550,000. Exclusive in SHIRAN through Anglo-Saxon ☎ 02-251161.

GIVAT HAMIVTAR, villa, view, basement, spacious dining room. Exclusive Pearl Skoinik Realty ☎ 02-865552.

OLD TALPIOT, 4.5, two bathrooms, access to garden, architectural design. Exclusive Corrinne Davar (Maldan) ☎ 02-733385.

OLD KATAMON, 5.5, priced to sell, beautiful, entire first floor, balconies, storage, parking. Exclusive in SHIRAN through IDAN ☎ 02-734834-5

BAKA, excellent price, 4 large rooms, third floor, 30 sq.m. storeroom, must be sold. Exclusive to SHIRAN through IDAN ☎ 02-734834/5.

HAR NOF, 3, large kitchen, low floor, light. KATHY ROSENBERG BROKERS, Tel. 02-6519516 (NS).

HAR NOF, 5.5, garden, view, beautiful kitchen, spacious. KATHY ROSENBERG BROKES, ☎ 02-6519516 (NS).

FOR RELIGIOUS, Ramot 04, beautiful two-level cottage, 5, gardens, two entrances. ☎ 02-862384.

BEIT HAKEREM, lovely, exclusive, 7 + pool, sauna, terrace, private parking. Exclusive to T.K.M. ☎ 02-6528041.

HABITAT ☎ 02-611222, Abu Tor, five rooms, spacious, terrace, separate 2-room unit, $350,000. Exclusive to SHIRAN.

HABITAT ☎ 02-611222, OLD TALPIOT, four partly-renovated rooms, low floor, storage, parking, $262,000. Exclusive to SHIRAN.

CHOICE REHAVIA, 5 spacious, elegant terrace, quiet building, excellent purchase, must sell. Narkiss Real Estate. ☎ 02-249249.

REHAVIA, quiet and green, 4, dinette, modern, large private garden, private entrance. Exclusive in SHIRAN through Beh-Zvi ☎ 02-631664.

TALBIEH (Washington St.), 3, quiet, 2nd floor, 3 balconies, exclusive. Active Model, ☎/fax 02-721087/050-303900.

GERMAN COLONY, 5, spacious, elevator, quiet, view, southfacing, parking. Exclusive in SHIRAN through Capital ☎ 02-794911.

OLD KATAMON, 3, view, quiet, immediate, close to shopping/buses. Exclusive in SHIRAN through Capital ☎ 02-794911.

CASPI STREET, fabulous view, 4, balcony, store-room. Exclusive Corrinne Davar (Maldan) ☎ 02-733385.

GERMAN COLONY, 5, spacious, elevator, quiet, view, southfacing, parking. Exclusive in SHIRAN through Capital ☎ 02-794911.

HABITAT ☎ 02-611222, Ramat Sharett, five rooms, 116 meters, built in cupboards, private heating, storeroom, $330,000. Exclusive to SHIRAN.

TALBIEH, choice of beautiful 4 rooms-apartments (Pinsker), Magu, Jabotinsky, Hovevei Zion. T.A.C. ☎ 02-631764.

TALBIEH, outstanding Bauhaus building rights, excellent investment. Corrinne Davar (Maldan) ☎ 02-733385.

BAKA, superb location, 6 rooms + 40 sq.m. unit, verdant garden. Exclusive Corrinne Devar (Maldan) ☎ 02-733385.

MA'ALOT MORIAH!!! 6 rooms, garden, view, storeroom, yard, immediate. Exclusive to DIRAN REALTY ☎ 050-373823, 02-251345.

BAYIT VEGAN, 2 huge (formerly 3), luxurious, first floor, Central Realty ☎ 02-417629.

LUXURIOUS DUPLEX on Cespi, 180 sq.m., terrace with fantastic view, parking. Exclusive to Nadlan-Plus Ltd. ☎ 02-6540101 (Hanan).

KIRYAT SHMUEL (Palmach), 5 rooms, 125 sq.m., 4 balconies, high floor, elevator, immediate. Active Model ☎ 02-721087, 050-303900.

REHAVIA, 2.5, improved and renovated, excellent directions, second floor. Original Realty. ☎ 02-236252.

HAR NOF, 5, private entrance, garden, yard, sukka porch, $320,000. ☎ 02-6521490.

OLD TALPIOT, 180 sq.m., penthouse, large terraces, private elevator, fantastic view, only $525,000. Keys at Merhav Real Estate Sales and Management. ☎ 02-661595.

BEIT HAKEREM, 3, 2nd floor, closed balcony, priced to sell, $175,000. Merhav Real Estate Sales and Management ☎ 02-661595.

REHAVIA, outstanding 5-room pet-cottage, terrace with magnificent view. Keys at Alex Losky Real Estate ☎ 02-235595.

REHAVIA (Diskin) spacious 4 rooms with beautiful view, 3rd floor, elevator. Alex Losky Real Estate ☎ 02-235595.

OLD KATAMON, unique, Arab-style, private entrance, patio, balconies. Keys at Alex Losky Real Estate ☎ 02-235595.

EFRAT, NEW COTTAGE, 7, gardens, 250 sq.m., immediate, $280,000. Broker ☎ 02-9933247, NS.

REHAVIA-MEGIDDO, 4.5, view, needs cosmetics, make offer. Broker ☎ 02-9933247, NS.

BAYIT VEGAN, 5 & 3, Michlin, elevator, succah, view, broker. ☎ 02-9933247, NS.

JERUSALEM FLEA MARKET - new. We buy/sell everything. 25 Hillel St. We buy/sell everything. 25 Hillel St. (corner Ben-Yehuda). ☎ 02-232408.

WANTED

TO BUY/RENT: luxury 4-7 rooms for American family. American Realty, ☎ 02-820126; fax 02-243228.

SPACIOUS HOME with at least 5 rooms & garden, central location, long term, immediate. 02-277571 (8-5).

CANADIAN COUPLE SEEKING 3-bedroom apartment, central, garden or view, long-term, ☎ 02-246555.

WHERE TO STAY

TALBIEH, CENTRAL LOCATION, 2 1/2, quiet, luxurious, furnished, kosher, holidays, short-term. ☎ 02-764907; 02-954674.

HOUSE 57: Pleasant B & B guest house. Center of Jerusalem. ☎ 02-819944; fax 02-322929.

MAHALAT SHIVA, 2 1/2, furnished, Arab house, charming, central, short-term, kosher, tourists. ☎ 02-356839.

STUDIO APARTMENT, German Colony, for 2 persons, minimum 1 week, furnished, air-conditioned, ☎ 02-6520641.

TOURISTS! Near the King David, sleeps five, fully equipped, ☎ 02-870763; fax 02-870764.

BED & BREAKFAST, French Hill, Hebrew, good rates; also apartment available July 15-August 15. ☎ 02-810870.

HOLIDAY ARTS

GIVAT MORDECHAI, for tourists, 3, fully equipped, elevator, short-term. Tel. 02-669087.

BUSINESS OFFERS

INVESTMENT

FOR SALE
large business, very prosperous, offices ☎ 02-782968, evenings.

BUS. PREMISES

STORE FOR RENT, long-term possible, 17 meters + balcony, 24 Agron St. ☎ 02-736975.

HOTEL FOR SALE in JERUSALEM, for serious only, 110 rooms. Nadlan-Plus Ltd. (Maldan) ☎ 02-6540101 (Shlomi).

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

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	Shabbat begins	Shabbat ends
Jerusalem	7:10 p.m.	8:31 p.m.
Tel Aviv	7:28 p.m.	8:34 p.m.
Haifa	7:22 p.m.	8:35 p.m.
Beersheba	7:25 p.m.	8:23 p.m.
Eilat	7:21 p.m.	8:27 p.m.

Tora portion: Korah

JERUSALEM

MORESHET YISRAEL - Conservative 4 Agron. Dr. Avraham Feder, Rabbi. Fri. Minha 6:30. Sat. Shaharit 8:30. Minha + shiur 6:50. Daily at 7:00 a.m.

HAR-EL SYNAGOGUE (Progressive) 16 Shmuel Hanagid, Tel. 02-253841. Friday evening 6:30. Shabbat morning: 9:30. Rabbi Tovia Ben-Chorin.

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE, 13 King David St. Shabbat morning service, 9:30 a.m.

YESHURUN CENTRAL SYNAGOGUE - Orthodox, 44 King George. Noted American cantor, Chaim Walfish. Fri. Minha 7:30. Sat., Shaharit 8:00.

CHRISTIAN

JERUSALEM

REDEEMER CHURCH, Lutheran, Muristan Rd. Old City, Jerusalem. Sunday services: English 9:00 a.m. German 10.30 a.m. Tel. 276111, 281049.

ST. PAUL'S (Pentecostal), 32 Shivtei Yisrael. Sunday, 6 p.m. Tel. 02-717988.

KING OF KINGS ASSEMBLY, YMCA Auditorium, 26 King David St. Tel. 610017. Sunday, 6 p.m.

PENTECOSTAL WORSHIP SERVICE, MT. ZION FELLOWSHIP, 7:30 p.m. Fri., Sat., Sun. Tel. 02-828964.

TEL AVIV

IMMANUEL CHURCH (Lutheran), Tel Aviv-Yafo, 15 Rehov Beer Hofman (near 17 Rehov Eilat) Tel. 6820654. Saturday service 11 a.m. Service in English every Sunday at 10 a.m.

HAIFA

BEIT ELIAHU (Evangelical Messianic Congregation) Haifa, 43 Meir Street, Tel. 04-523581. Sat. service 11 a.m.

OTHER CENTERS

BAPTIST VILLAGE CONGREGATION, 3 km. north of Petah Tikva, near Yarkon Junction. Sabbath Bible study Saturday 9:45 a.m. Worship hour, 10:45 a.m. Tel. 09-574661.

ARTGUIDE

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JERUSALEM

Museums

OLD YISHUV COURT MUSEUM. Life in the Jewish Community in the Old City, mid-19th century - World War II. 6 Or Hahaim, Jewish Quarter, Old City. Sun.-Thur. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

TEL AVIV

Museums

TEL AVIV MUSEUM OF ART. In the courtyard, Yaacov Dorchin - Blocked Well, 28 monumental sculptures♦Botticelli: Madonna and Child (first Botticelli shown in Israel) ♦Lea Nikel - Retrospective♦The Unknown Modigliani - Drawings♦Artists' Books♦16th-19th Cent. European Art♦Impressionism, Post-Impressionism♦The School of Paris♦The Moshe and Sara Mayer Coll.♦Sculpture♦20th cent. Modern Masters - Mizne-Blumental Coll.♦Israeli Art - A Historic Presentation♦From New Horizons Onward. **HELENA RUBINSTEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART.** Daniel Sack - Morimura and Me. Hours: Weekdays 10:00 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue., 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri., Sat., 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. **Art Education Center**, Tel. 6919155/6/7.

WIZO. To visit our projects call Tel Aviv 6923819; Jerusalem 256060; Haifa 388817.

HAIFA

Museums

THE REUBEN AND EDITH HECHT MUSEUM (Haifa University). Permanent exhibition: The People of Israel in Eretz Yisrael♦Phoenicians on the Northern Coast of Israel in the Biblical Period♦"Purity Broke Out in Israel" - Stone Vessels of the late Second Temple period. Open Sun., Mon., Wed., Thur. 10-4; Tue. 10-7. Fri. 10-1. Sat. 10-2. ADMISSION FREE.

WHERE TO GO

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JERUSALEM

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Tourists and Visitors. Come and see the General Israel Orphans Home for Girls, Jerusalem, its manifold activities, and impressively modern buildings. Free guided tours weekdays, 9-12. Bus no. 14, 24 or 5, Kiryat Moshe. ☎ 523291.

HEBREW UNIVERSITY. Tours of the Mount Scopus campus, in English, daily Sun.-Thur., 11 a.m. from Bronfman Reception Centre, Sherman Administration Bldg. Buses 4a, 9, 23, 26, 28. For info, call 882819.

AMIT Women. For a free conducted tour of our installations, call Jerusalem 619222; Tel Aviv 5233154. Hours: 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Sun.-Thur.

HADASSAH. Visit the Hadassah installations, Chagall Windows. Tel. 02-416333, 02-776271.

TEL AVIV

Conducted Tours

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HAIFA

WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-374253.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Friday, June 23

Jerusalem: Kupat Holim Clalit, Straus A, 3 Avigdori, 706660; Salah e-Din, 272315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 810108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 282058.
Tel Aviv: Pe'er Market, 61 Yehuda Hayamit, Jaffa, 682-2973; Milano Square, 1 Yehuda Hamaccabi, 604-2308.
Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Silvia, 182 Weizmann, Kfar Sava, 959642.
Netanya: Hanassi, 36 Weizmann, 823639.
Krayot area: Krayot, 1 Hahagana, Kiryat Bialik, 721665.
Haifa: Derech Hayam, 209 Derech Hayam, 371472.
Herzliya: Clal Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 558472, 558407. Open 9 a.m. to midnight.
Upper Nazareth: Clal Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 570468. Open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Saturday, June 24

Jerusalem: (day) Amona, 9 Leib Yaffe, 731901; (evening) Center Pharm, 20 Yad Harutzim, 731475; (day and evening) Balsam, Salah e-Din, 272315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 810108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 282058.
Tel Aviv: Grusso, 27 Sheinkin, 528-4791; Bass, 66 Frishman, 523-7326. (evening, till midnight) Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Einstein, Ramat Aviv, 641-3730.
Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: (day) Super Pharm, 3 Ostshinsky, Kfar Sava, 958889; (evening) Arza, 36 Ostrovsky, Ra'anana, 431613.
Netanya: Hasharon mall, Herzl, 617766.
Krayot area: Super Pharm, Hakiryon, 44 Hapalmah, Kiryat Bialik, 779320.
Haifa: Kiryat Ellezer, 6 Mayerhoff Sq., 511707.
Herzliya: Clal Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 558472, 558407. Open 10 a.m. to midnight.
Upper Nazareth: Clal Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 570468. Open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

DUTY HOSPITALS

Friday, June 23

Jerusalem: Shaare Zedek (internal, pediatrics); Hadassah Ein Kerem (surgery, orthopedics, obstetrics, ophthalmology, ENT).
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center (pediatrics, internal), Ichilov (surgery).
Netanya: Laniado.

Saturday, June 24

Jerusalem: Hadassah Ein Kerem (internal, surgery, orthopedics, ENT); Bikur Holim (obstetrics, pediatrics); Shaare Zedek (ophthalmology).
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center (pediatrics), Ichilov (internal, surgery).
Netanya: Laniado.

POLICE 100

FIRE 102

In emergencies dial 102. Otherwise, dial number of your local station as given in the front of the phone directory.

FIRST AID 101

Magen David Adom
In emergencies dial 101 (Hebrew) or 911 (English) in most parts of the country. In addition:

Ashdod* 551333 Kfar Sava* 902222
Ashkelon 551332 Nahariya* 912333
Beersheba* 274767 Netanya* 604444
Beit Shemesh 523133 Petah Tikva* 9311111
Dan Region* 5793333 Rehovot* 451333
Eilat* 332444 Rishon* 9642333
Haifa* 512233 Safed 920333
Jerusalem* 523133 Tel Aviv* 5460111
Karmiel* 998544 Tiberias* 792444
* Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) service in the area, around the clock.

Medical help for tourists (in English) 177-022-9110.

The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital, phone 04-529205 for emergency calls 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.

Eran – Emotional First Aid. Jerusalem 610303, Tel Aviv 5461111 (children/youth 6961113), Haifa 672222, Beersheba 281128, Netanya 625110, Karmiel 9988410, Kfar Sava 974555, Hadera 346789.

Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 5234819, 5449191 (men), Jerusalem 514455, Haifa 660111, Eilat 31977.

Emergency line for women in distress Sunday-Thursday 24 hrs. a day; Friday 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 09-505720.

Wizo hotlines for battered women 02-514111, 03-5461133 (also in Russian), 07-376310, 08-550508 (also in Amharic).

Kupat Holim Information Center 177-022-1906, Sunday-Thursday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Hadassah/Jerusalem Municipal Health Center for Adolescents, 6 Chile St., Kiryat Hayovel, Jim. Advice by phone 02-433882.

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- Very attractive price! New, semi-detached house, luxurious, 260 sq.m., borders green area, $510,000.
- New, detached house! High standard finish, 300 sq.m., 650 sq.m. plot, $600,000.
- De luxe house!! + pool + air conditioning, 300 sq.m., 650 sq.m. plot, sea view. $765,000.
- Beautiful house!! 320 sq.m. on one floor, 1,600 sq.m. plot, + pool, adjacent to green area, sought after area, $1,750,000.

FOR RENT IN CAESAREA
- Furnished apartment, 3 bedrooms + garden, $750.
- Beautiful house, 4 bedrooms + basement + air conditioning, $1,400.

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WARM FAMILY seeks au pair to care for children and house from August, long-term. ☎ 050-290013, 02-768389. 023124

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SALESPERSON (27-50) required for optometrist, experience preferred. ☎ 02-255719, 1-1:30 p.m. 023210

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OPTIC DORON NEEDS an energetic, professional optometrist. High salary. Sharon-Laura, ☎ 02-793410. 022935

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TEL AVIV

DWELLINGS

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PENTHOUSES for rent on the waterfront in Tel Aviv. "Nimveh" ☎ 03-6425291. 016175

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STUDIO, PENTHOUSE, LUXURIOUS, Gan Ha'ir, $300 per week. Available from July 7 '95. ☎ 052-505655; 03-5245668. 023228

SALES

RAMAT AVIV GIMMEL, 5 + balcony, new, exquisite, quiet, underground parking. YAEL REALTOR (Maldan). ☎ 03-6426253. 022270

3.5, fourth floor, elevator, parking, Artozorov (near Dizengoff), $380,000. "Girsch" ☎ 03-5444331. 022737

SAVYON, SUPER LUXURIOUS, villa on 3 dunams, 400 sq.m. pool, $2.5 million. American Realty, ☎ 02-820126; Fax 02-243228. 022774

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NEAR DIZENGOFF, 3, BEAUTIFULLY renovated rooms, $260,000. ☎ 03-5270796; 03-5245813. 022945

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FILIPINA ATTENDANT. 32 years old, with recommendations and nursing experience, seeks position with elderly woman. 03-5469122

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RAMAT AVIV GIMMEL, childcare & housekeeping, live-in/out, knowledge of Hebrew. ☎ 09-560111. 022313

SEEKING LIVE-OUT AU PAIR, English speaking, Tel Aviv. ☎ 03-6918048 (NS). 023039

IN KIRYAT ONO, young woman for housekeeping, 8 am - 4 pm, 6 days/week. ☎ 03-5347671. 023051

IN JAFFA, full-time help required for family and 7 year old child. ☎ 03-6820758, 03-9241234. 023055

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NORTH TEL AVIV, woman (40-50) to care for elderly woman + cooking, cleaning, live-in. ☎ 03-5230136. 023188

WOMAN: housekeeper, companion, driving license, live-in excellent conditions. Tel. 03-5229030. 023212

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GENERAL

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DAN REGION

DWELLINGS

SALES

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DWELLINGS

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RENTALS

VILLA- Herzliya Pituach- 2 floors, large basement, lounge, dining, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths. Excellent location. ☎ 03-5960228. 022932

HERZLIYA PITUAH, KFAR SHMARYAHU, selection of villas for rent. SHASHOUA (Maldan), ☎ 09-570878. 022977

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SALES

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HERZLIYA PITUAH, beautiful villa near the sea, for rent/sale. ☎ 09-504618 "Connections". 022695

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** $369,000 **
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AU PAIR for family in Herzliya + childcare, live-in, ☎ 09-546530. 022145

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DWELLINGS

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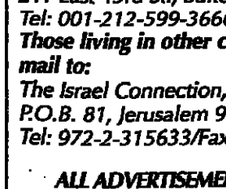
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Search continues for Karmiel girl

BATSHEVA TSUR and Itim

SEARCHERS last night discovered a sheet belonging to Esther Assias, 8, of Karmiel, who went missing Tuesday during a school trip on the Golan Heights.

The massive hunt was continuing through the night for the girl, who disappeared in the vicinity of the Bnot Ya'acov bridge. After the sheet was identified by the family, police brought in dogs to help with the search. Divers were also called in to search the water near where the sheet was found.

According to eyewitnesses, Assias disappeared after a fight with a classmate at the edge of a natural pool, in which the classmate slipped and fell into the water. The classmate was not hurt.

The witnesses said Assias had taken the sheet with her.

The hunt for Assias focused on the thick shrubbery of the Jordan River headwaters. They were also searching the rocky terrain nearby, where it was thought she may have fled in fear after the fight.

Hundreds of policemen and volunteers are participating in the search. Members of the Assias family, who came from Ethiopia during Operation Moses, were calling to the Israeli-born Esther on a megaphone in Amharic and Hebrew.

Experts said it would be possible for the child to survive in the area for a few days.

Police still looking for dead teenager's father

RAINE MARCUS

POLICE were still searching last night for the father of a 16-year-old girl who was found dead with a plastic handcuff around her neck on Wednesday evening at her Ramat Gan home.

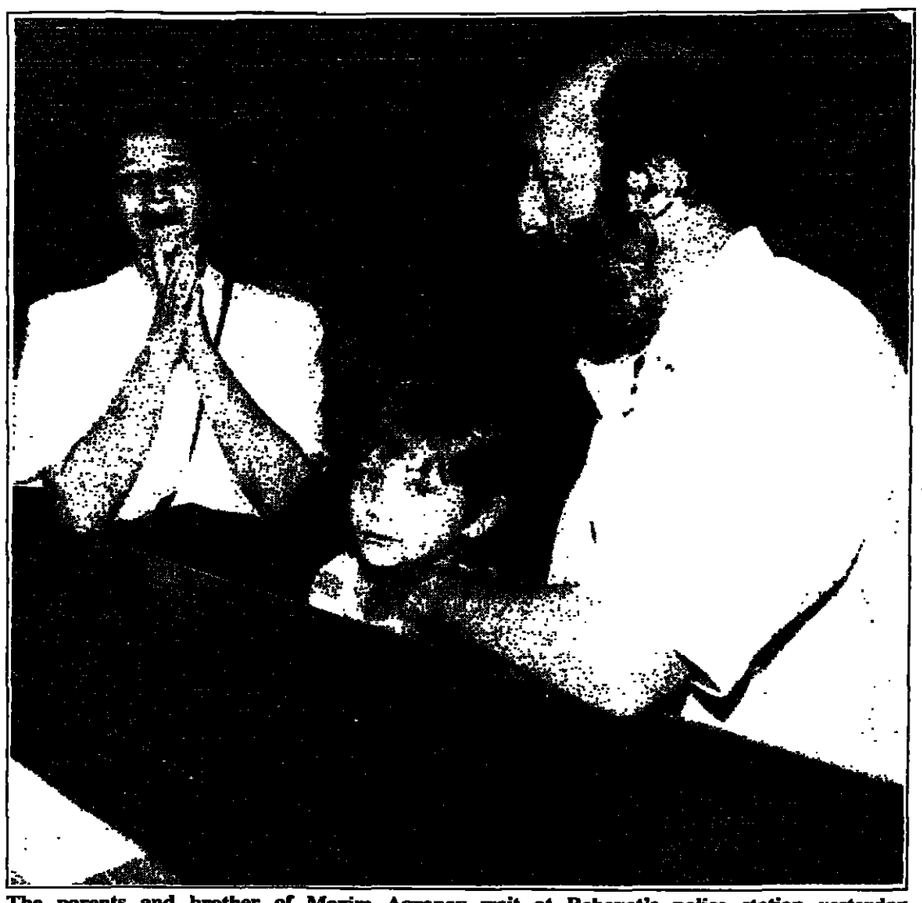
The girl, Shira Zeitlin, was found by her brother.

A police pathologist could not determine whether the girl had committed suicide or if foul play was involved, and sent the body to the Institute of Forensic Medicine at Abu Kabir for an autopsy. Police were still waiting for results last night.

The girl's father, who her brother and mother blamed for her death, disappeared Wednesday night and police are still searching for him.

A senior police officer said last night, however, there were no signs of a struggle and he presumed the girl had committed suicide.

The police have asked the public to help them search for the father, Menahem, a 59-year-old Dan pensioner.



The parents and brother of Maxim Agronov wait at Rehovot's police station yesterday after hearing reports that the 17-year-old boy had been found in Ashkelon. (Alon Ron/Israel Sun)

TEEN

(Continued from Page 1)

He had last been seen with Agronov at a bonfire near his home. Agronov had run away from his Rehovot home several times and had dropped out of school, and Molcho's friends were alarmed by, as one put it, the "strange friendship between Amit and this strange creature."

Agronov's parents were not informed that he had been found in Ashkelon, and arrived at the Rehovot police station after hearing radio reports. They were also not allowed to see him immediately.

Meanwhile Central District police imposed a blackout on details of a minor who was arrested yesterday in connection with Molcho's murder.

Police said the youth, 17, will appear in Rehovot Magistrate's Court for a remand hearing this morning.

MUNICH

(Continued from Page 1)

heretofore unpublished evidence, including the terrorists' mutilation of the body of one of the slain athletes and the asphyxiation by poisonous fumes of David Berger, the American-born Olympic-team member from Shaker Heights, Ohio.

Preliminary hearings will begin next Wednesday in Munich.

Should the case reach a trial, the plaintiffs and defendants will rely on some 2,000 pages of documentation and 900 photographs from the Munich police archives, which the Bavarian authorities withheld from the families until 1992.

The case is a result of a story in *The Jerusalem Post* that appeared in July, 1992.

"Your story got the ball rolling," says Ankie Rekhess-Spitzer, widow of fencing coach Andre Spitzer. "The truth is if it weren't for that story, I don't know if we would have gotten where we are today."

The full story appears in today's Magazine.

Oceanarium opens at Eilat's Coral World

JENNIFER J. MEYER

THE Coral World Eilat Underwater Observatory opened its new movie theater this week as part of its 20th anniversary celebrations.

The Oceanarium provides a 20-minute show, which takes the audience on a trip two kilometers below the surface of the Red Sea, combining visual elements with motion provided by a simulator.

The oval auditorium, capable of seating 150, includes an 18-meter screen and a three dimensional sequence for which the audience will be given special glasses.

The new addition is an attempt to combine educational and entertainment elements for the 500,000 annual visitors.

Technology and production of the new facility is the work of Or-Pan, an Israeli company.

JIHAD

(Continued from Page 1)

power, Israeli provocations, revenge" (18%), while only 15% said "for the sake of Islam" or as "an alternative to the peace process."

Sixty percent of Palestinians would not agree to a two-state solution if that meant giving up claims to land inside Israel's pre-1967 borders.

Ghassan Khatib, director of the Jerusalem Media and Communications Center, which conducted the poll, which has a 3% margin of error, among 1,397 interviewees in the territories, said the findings were not surprising.

"A year ago, 90% would have said we won't give up 1948 lands. It is a warning to Arafat not to neglect the 1948 refugees. If one considers that the opposition is nearly 30%, the percentage supporting suicide operations is not that high. Also, in Gaza it is less than in the West Bank," 30% compared with 35%.

Support for "armed resistance" is higher still, with 42% in favor, with 35% support in Gaza. In Fatah, 30% support armed resistance and 18% suicide attacks.

Nevertheless, the poll shows that support for the peace process is increasing with 75% for it and 16% against, with the remainder undecided. In Gaza, 69% feel more secure than before the Oslo accords.

Only 10% believe Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is sincere "in implementing the agreements."

Arafat's performance as head of the Palestinian Authority is evaluated as "good" by 52%, despite the fact that only the Education Ministry among five PA agencies queried wins a "good" evaluation by a majority.

"This shows that people do not see an alternative to Arafat," said Khatib.

Peace Watch yesterday said the Palestinians are right to say the Israeli government has been violating the Oslo accords by delaying military redeployment.

Israel's claim that redeployment has been delayed by the failure of the PLO to implement its security requirements is not a valid reason, since "the Declaration of Principles did not provide an automatic link between PLO actions on terror and the continued implementation of the accords," Peace Watch said.

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September 1995 will mark the celebration of 3000 years of Jerusalem — a city of the world.
The Jerusalem Post, in cooperation with Israel's Ministry of Tourism, will present a special full-color glossy magazine to commemorate 3000 years since the founding of the city as the capital of the kingdom of Israel by King David . The magazine will be distributed with The New York Times and The Jerusalem Post in September 1995.
Jerusalem 3000 will emphasize the supreme importance of a united Jerusalem. It will provide an international perspective on the historical development of the holy city, which not only serves as the historic and political capital of the Jewish people, but also as a universal center of culture, spirituality and religion.
This magazine will also showcase the profound impact of Jewish organizations, both local and international, on the building and development of Jerusalem, including educational, cultural, religious, social welfare, health, architectural and economic and industrial initiatives..
Hundreds of thousands of Jewish tourists from all over the world are expected to visit Jerusalem during the year of festivities. In addition, Jerusalem 3000 committees have been established overseas in Chicago, Boston, Los Angeles, New York, Montreal, Paris, London and Melbourne.
The focus of Jerusalem 3000 will reflect the multifaceted holy city. It will illuminate the colorful past and present lifestyle of Jerusalemites, its spirituality, archeology, historical landmarks, museums and new developments. The 15 months of celebration will be among the magazine's highlights. We will provide a behind-the-scenes look at how Jerusalem of today celebrates the Jerusalem of yesterday, the Jerusalem of tomorrow, and much more.
For further information, please contact Yehuda Menachem at
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England opens at 255-8 against West Indies

LONDON (Reuter) – West Indies piled on the agony for England in the second Test at Lord's yesterday, despite a century stand between Robin Smith and Graham Thorpe.

Smith (61) and Thorpe (52) put on 111 for the fourth wicket, but West Indies were dominant for most of the sunlit opening day to the season's traditional cricket showpiece.

England, given a nine-wicket drubbing in the first Test of the six-match series at Headingley, were 255 for eight at the close, having reached the relative prosperity of 185 for three.

Curtis Ambrose provided West Indies with an early boost by dispatching England captain Mike Atherton for 21, and they received a bonus in the shape of two wickets in 13 balls for Carl Hooper's off-spin.

Hooper removed Smith and Mark Ramprakash (0) to start a slide, sustained by Ambrose and test debutant all-rounder Ottis Gibson, in which four wickets tumbled for 20 runs.

Dominic Cork, winning his first Test cap, and Peter Martin salvaged a measure of English pride by putting on exactly 50 for the eighth wicket in the final hour.

England's innings took an uneven course after Atherton started on the right note by winning the toss and opting to bat on a dry pitch with some pace and bounce.

The England captain, whose skilful and determined batting at the top of the order has made his a prized wicket for West Indies, made 21 out of 29 after enjoying most of the early strike before the problems began.

Ambrose, who generated pace and a degree of movement, broke through with a yorker that crashed into the base of Atherton's stumps.

Alec Stewart, restored to open as well as keeping wicket after batting in the middle order in the first Test, was repairing the damage with Graeme Hick when West Indies struck twice in six balls either side of lunch.

England's best phase of the day then unfolded as Thorpe and Smith, with a blend of resolution, discipline and positive stroke-play, wrested the initiative from the touring team.

England, first innings

M. Atherton b Ambrose	21
A. Stewart c Arthurton b Gibson	34
G. Hick c Lara b Bishop	13
G. Thorpe c Lara b Ambrose	52
R. Smith b Hooper	61
M. Ramprakash c Campbell b Hooper	0
D. Cork b Walsh	30
D. Gough c Campbell b Gibson	11
P. Martin not out	22
Extras (b-1 lb-7 nb-3)	11
Total (for eight wickets)	255

Fall of wicket: 1-29 2-70 3-74 4-185 5-187 6-191 7-205 8-255.
To bat: R.Illingworth, A.Fraser
Bowling (to date): Ambrose 21-4-58-2, Walsh 17.4-5-38-1, Gibson 20-2-81-2, Bishop 17-4-33-1, Hooper 14-3-36-2.

Israel evens mark with win over Sweden

CHARLES HARRIS and news agencies

DORON Jamchee scored 22 points and Doron Sheffer 16 as Israel turned back Sweden 87-62 in the second game of the 29th European National Championships last night in Athens.

The victory evens Israel's record at 1-1, following the opening-game 73-71 loss to Italy on Wednesday.

Israel sharpshooters were red-hot from the three-point range against Sweden, hitting 64 percent (nine of 14) of their shots, including four of six in the second half.

Sheffer led the way from downtown with three for three from behind the arc.

Clinging to a 52-48 lead early in the second half, Israel went on a 13-3 run, thanks to nine points from Sheffer and four from Motti Daniel.

When Sweden finally called a time out, Sheffer was surrounded by jubilant teammates, as Israel had exploded to a comfortable 65-51 advantage.

Torjborn Gehrke, Sweden's offensive gun, headed for the bench early in the second half when he picked up his fourth foul with almost 15 minutes left in the game.

Israel took advantage of Sweden's foul troubles, as Gehrke was joined by Henrik Gaddefors and Oscar Leftwerth, who picked up their fourth foul only minutes later.

Israel took a 42-34 halftime advantage, as Jamchee was six of 13 from the floor and led the team with 13 points.

Sweden closed the gap to start the second half, but got no closer than four points.

Israel has tonight off before returning to the court tomorrow to play Germany at 1:30 p.m.

That game is scheduled to be broadcast life on Channel 1.

In other Group A action, Arvidas Sabonis dwarfed the Greek team on the boards and Sarunas Marciulionis scored 28 points as Lithuania beat the host nation 89-73 for its second victory at the championships.

Sabonis added 18 points to his 23 rebounds and with the 2.21-meter looking awesome, Lithuania is looking very much like a gold medal contender.

The entire Greek team had 26 rebounds.

Sabonis, voted by coaches on the continent as Europe's Player of the Year, is finally heading to the Portland Trail Blazers in the NBA next season.

The 31-year-old center dominated the game. He had 15 rebounds in the first half and never allowed Greece to make it a close game.

Marciulionis, the Seattle SuperSonics guard, sank all four of his 3-point attempts.

Rimas Kurtinaitas and Arturas Karnishovas, the former Seton Hall player, contributed 17 points each for Lithuania.

Greece, which battled hard in a 84-80 loss to Yugoslavia Wednesday, closed to within six points in the second half. But Marciulionis hit a three-pointer and had a three-point play as Lithuania, the Olympic bronze medalist, opened a 15-point lead to dispel any Greek hopes 12 minutes from the end.

Forward Fanis Christodoulou made four of eight three-point attempts and led Greece with 19 points.

Greece won the title in 1987, when it also played at home.

Today's game between Lithuania and Yugoslavia is likely to decide the winner of Group A.

Croatia, another contender led by NBA stars Toni Kukoc and Dino Radja and NBA prospect Arijan Komazec, opened a bid for its first European title with a 91-83 victory over Slovenia.

Croatia cruised in the game between two former Yugoslav republics, which featured players who were once members of the mighty Yugoslav national team, which won five European Championship titles.

The Croats had more problems dealing with the early start (9:30 a.m.), than with Slovenia's team.

Croatia, the 1992 Olympic silver medalist behind the US Dream Team, boosted its chances by adding to its roster Radja, the Boston Celtics power forward.

Radja's participation in the 14-nation tournament had been in doubt because of problems over the insurance demanded by the Celtics.

While finally adding Radja, the Croats have all but given up hope of bringing center Zan Tabak. Tabak has post-season commitments with his team Houston Rockets, the NBA champions.

Radja had 12 points, four rebounds and three blocked shots in 21 minutes of play.

Kukoc, the Chicago Bulls forward, led Croatia with 20 points, while Komazec had 19 and seven rebounds.

Komazec, a 25-year-old, 2.01-meter forward, has an offer to sign with the Phoenix Suns. He led the the Italian league in scoring last season with Cagiva Varese.

Slovenia dropped to 0-2 after also losing its opener against France.

"We don't even practice that early in the morning," said Croatia's coach Aleksandar Petrovic.

In another early Group B game, Russia improved its record to 2-0 with a 85-65 victory over France, which dropped to 1-1.

Russia, runner-up in the last European and world championships, got 16 points apiece from its Spain-based stars, forward Andrei Fetisov and guard Sergei Babkov.

Fetisov also led Russia on the boards, grabbing 11 rebounds.

France led by seven points late in the game and blew a five-point lead in the last two minutes.

For France, Jim Bilba had 13 points, Stephane Ostrowski 13 and Yann Bonato 12.

Italy escaped with another close victory, beating defending champion Germany 68-67 on two free throws by Vincenzo Esposito 4.6 seconds before the end.

Esposito led his team with 23 points.

Gregor Fucka pitched in with 10 points, while Walter Magnifico had 9.

Germany dropped to 0-2, while Italy, which slipped past Israel 73-71 Wednesday, improved to 2-0 in Group A.

Germany was paced by Mike Koch with 22 points. Hendrik Roedl had 15 and Hans Gnad contributed 12.

Spain also scored its second straight Group B victory by beating Finland 87-74.

Javier Hernandez had 17 points for Spain, while New York City-born Mikel Smith, who played college basketball for the University of North Carolina and later became a naturalized Spaniard, scored 16 and had 15 rebounds.

Spain also received a contribution from Jean Antonio Orenga, who had 14 points.

Finland, which dropped to 0-2, got a game-high 22 points from Kari Pekka Klinga.

Martti Kuisma chipped in with 16 points, while Pekka Markkanen and Juha Luhtanen both had 8.

Four top finishers from each group advance to the quarterfinals.

The crowd was introduced to a novelty for the European championships – and a bit of American influence – as Sweden brought along to the tournament a squad of cheerleaders wearing yellow-and-blue national colors

European National Championships

Group A

	W	L	Pts.
1. Italy	2	0	4
2. Lithuania	2	0	4
3. Israel	1	1	3
4. Yugoslavia	1	0	2
5. Germany	0	2	2
6. Greece	0	2	2
7. Sweden	0	1	1

Group B

	W	L	Pts.
1. Russia	2	0	4
2. Spain	2	0	4
3. France	1	1	3
4. Croatia	1	0	2
5. Slovenia	0	2	2
6. Finland	0	2	2
7. Turkey	0	1	1

YESTERDAY'S GROUP A RESULTS:
Italy 68, Germany 67
Lithuania 89, Greece 73
Israel 87, Sweden 62

YESTERDAY'S GROUP B RESULTS:
Croatia 91, Slovenia 83
Spain 84, Finland 74
Russia 85, France 65

TODAY'S SCHEDULE
Group A:
Yugoslavia-Lithuania
Germany-Sweden
Italy-Greece

Group B:
Turkey-Finland
Spain-France
Russia-Croatia

TOMORROW'S SCHEDULE
Group A:
Italy-Yugoslavia
Israel-Germany (13:30 on Channel 1)
Sweden-Greece

Group B:
France-Turkey
Slovenia-Russia
Croatia-Spain



I DIDN'T SEE YOU GUYS IN THE NBA – Croatia's Toni Kukoc powers his way through the Slovenian defense to score two of his 20 points yesterday. (AP)

Betar Jerusalem, Hapoel PT open summer soccer action

DEREK FATTAL

ISRAEL'S representatives in the Intertoto soccer tournament, Betar Jerusalem and Hapoel Petah Tikva, take to the field tomorrow evening for their opening matches in the summer competition.

Betar plays host to Belgium's Charleroi at 7 p.m., while the Petah Tikvan's will be entertained in "The May 19 Stadium" in Ankara by Turkey's Genclerbirligi.

Some of the other sides that will be playing across Europe include the Tottenham Hotspurs, Sheffield Wednesday, FC Basle, Canues, Metz, Odense and Wimbledon.

With the prospect of the leading teams in the competition qualifying for a spot in next season's UEFA Cup, interest in the tournament has increased significantly. Nevertheless few sides are expected to field full-strength squads.

Yanks defeat Orioles 2-1

BALTIMORE (AP) – Rookie Andy Pettitte pitched six solid innings and Paul O'Neill and Bernie Williams both homered as the New York Yankees averted a three-game sweep with a 2-1 victory over Baltimore.

The Yankees, who managed only six hits, won for the first time in 19 games when scoring fewer than four runs. They are now 4-22 when they get less than 10 hits.

Pettitte (2-4) allowed one run, five hits and three walks. Baltimore did not get a hit after the fifth inning.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Philadelphia	34	17	.667	–
Atlanta	30	21	.588	4
Montreal	27	26	.509	8
New York	19	33	.365	15.5
Florida	17	33	.340	16.5

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cincinnati	32	19	.627	–
Houston	28	24	.520	5.5
Chicago	26	25	.510	6
St. Louis	22	31	.415	11
Pittsburgh	19	31	.380	12.5

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Colorado	28	24	.538	–
San Francisco	28	25	.528	.5
San Diego	26	25	.510	1.5
Los Angeles	25	26	.500	2

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Boston	29	21	.580	–
Detroit	25	28	.472	5.5
Baltimore	21	29	.420	8
New York	21	29	.420	8
Toronto	20	28	.417	8

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	36	14	.720	–
Kansas City	29	21	.580	7
Milwaukee	24	25	.490	11.5
Chicago	18	30	.375	17
Minnesota	18	36	.308	21

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
California	31	21	.596	–
Texas	30	22	.577	1
Oakland	28	25	.528	3.5
Seattle	26	25	.510	4.5

WEDNESDAY'S NL RESULTS:
Los Angeles 10, St. Louis 1
San Francisco 6, Pittsburgh 5
San Diego 1, Chicago 0
Colorado 6, Florida 3
Houston 5, Montreal 3
Cincinnati 3, Atlanta 1
Philadelphia 6, New York 2

WEDNESDAY'S AL RESULTS:
Detroit 1, Texas 0
Boston 3, Cleveland 1
Milwaukee 10, Toronto 9
New York 2, Baltimore 1
Chicago 5, Seattle 4 (10)
Minnesota 3, Oakland 2
Kansas City 6, California 3

NBA, players union agree on new labor pact

NEW YORK (AP) – The National Basketball Association and its players association agreed on a new labor deal Wednesday night, with a vote by owners and players scheduled for today.

The deal was announced by NBA deputy commissioner Russell Granik and Simon Gourdine, the union's executive director.

The agreement came hours after Michael Jordan, Patrick Ewing and 15 other players filed legal papers with the National Labor Relations Board to block the agreement by decertifying the union.

Ninety-eight players must back the move by Friday for the NLRB to take the next step: a hearing that could lead to an election to strip the union of its authority to represent them.

Both NBA commissioner David Stern and Gourdine were sharply critical of the NLRB petition and expressed confidence both sides would ratify the deal.

"A disgruntled lawyer, whose firm was terminated by the players association, filed the NLRB petition and Marc Fleisher, the self-proclaimed spokesman for the group, represents very few NBA players and seems interested only in ousting the union leadership that replaced his father," Stern said in a statement.

"I do not think that the rhetoric of a few people will keep owners and players, who have cooperated in making past agreements work, from considering the current on on its own merits."

THE LOCAL SCENE

Eat, drink and pay the bills

The Hapoel Games' 10-day merry-making, with celebrities like Diana Ross, reached a dead-end this week with the announcement that more than half the organization's staff is to be fired.

Creating a NIS 8 million budget when big daddy Histadrut is tightening its belt certainly wouldn't win a place in Dunn and Bradstreet, but Hapoel head Yoram Oberkovitch has asked the workers to accept the decision "with understanding." Ah well, at least they're going out in style with tomorrow's "thank-you" bash at Kibbutz Ga'ash. *Derek Fattal*

Unblooming Gilad

It's not what you win, it's where for Gilad Bloom. Despite taking the Hapoel Games tennis title last week, Bloom couldn't delay his slip to Israel's fourth place in this week's ATP rankings to 307. Doing better are Eyal Ran, who broke the 200 barrier at 176; Eyal Erlich at 256 and mainstay Mansdorf at 98, on a downhill path until he exits the rankings in November. The real Israeli leader is Anna Smashnova, rising two places to 49 in the WTA lists. *Heather Chait*

Up, up and away

The national pole vaulting team has risen another notch with the arrival of Constantin Simyonev, 25, from Uzbekistan. Simyonev, with official and unofficial personal records of 5.60 meters and 5.80 meters respectively, plans to join Maccabi Tel Aviv. *Post Sports Staff*

All expenses not paid

Sixteen-year-old Yaniv Sharon, Israel's best table tennis player, will represent Borosia Dusseldorf in Germany next season. The catch? He must cover his own expenses, including flights and accommodation. *Heather Chait*

Who's propelling whom?

Maccabi Haifa soccer stars Haim Revivo and Alon Mizrahi have discovered a novel way of forging team unity. Mizrahi who tied the knot with his new wife Vered Selo last night, is planning a double honeymoon with the Revivos. *Derek Fattal*

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France defeats England for third place in World Cup

PRETORIA (Reuter) – Two second half tries by lock forward Olivier Roumat and wing Emile N'Tamack sealed a 19-9 win for France over England in the World Cup third place play-off match yesterday.

French center Thierry Lacroix failed with both conversions but kicked three penalties and in the process overtook Scotland captain Gavin Hastings as top scorer in the tournament with 112 points.

But basically it was a scrappy match between two tired sides, neither looking to have recovered from defeats in their semifinal matches last weekend.

Lacroix and England fly-half Rob Andrew were successful with one penalty apiece to leave the sides level 3-3 at the interval, but soon after the break the French center outscored Andrew with two penalties to one to make it 9-6 in France's favor.

Roumat put France in command when he dived over from a ruck near the England line to make it 14-6. Andrew reduced the arrears with a third successful penalty.

N'Tamack put the result beyond doubt when he raced clear in the closing minutes to make sure France were one of the four qualifiers for the 1999 World Cup.

Lacroix's final tally of tournament points left him 14 short of Grant Fox's 1987 record of 126, but any personal satisfaction was far outweighed by French delight at finally getting the better of the English.

English counterpart Will Carling, whose side have not suffered back-to-back defeats since 1988, acknowledged his men had failed to bounce back from the 45-29 defeat by New Zealand.

All they had to show for their 80 minutes effort in perfect weather on a dry pitch were three penalties from Rob Andrew, and most of the running rugby there was came from the French.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Three injured as SkyDome panels fall

At least three people were injured yesterday when aluminum and wood panels from an upper deck at the SkyDome fell onto spectators during the Blue Jays game against the Milwaukee Brewers. Medical crews removed two people on stretchers after the panels fell about 12 meters from the facing of the fifth deck to the crowd below. A third spectator walked away from the scene for treatment.

The game was not stopped, and it appeared as if many other spectators were unaware of what had occurred. *AP*

Ince signs three-year deal with Inter Milan

Manchester United midfielder Paul Ince, ending weeks of frenzied speculation, has signed a three-year contract with Inter Milan, the Italian first division club said in a statement yesterday. No financial details were given, although the deal is reported to be worth some £7 million. *Reuter*

Bulls fined $100,000 for uniform violations

The NBA fined the Chicago Bulls $100,000 on Wednesday for failure to comply with league uniform regulations during the playoffs by allowing Michael Jordan to change his number. *Reuter*

Mantle slightly rejecting new liver

Mickey Mantle is showing signs that his body is slightly rejecting the new liver he received two weeks ago, a problem common to many transplant patients. The "light rejection" was expected and is being treated with strong doses of steroids, said Dr. Goran Klintmalm, medical director of the Baylor Transplant Institute in Dallas. *AP*

Tyson settles suit filed by woman he raped

Mike Tyson has settled the civil suit filed against him by Desiree Washington, the beauty contestant he was convicted of raping four years ago, the boxer's lawyer said Wednesday. Attorney Nathan Dershowitz would not say how much money – if any – the settlement involves. *AP*

NHL okays Nordiques' move to Denver

The NHL Board of Governors has officially approved the sale of the Quebec Nordiques to COMSAT Entertainment Group and the relocation of the franchise in Denver. COMSAT, which also owns the NBA's Denver Nuggets, purchased the Nordiques on May 26 and announced its intention to move the club out of Quebec City, pending league approve. *Reuter*

Du Plessis: We don't mind being underdogs to New Zealand

JOHANNESBURG (Reuter) – South African manager Morne du Plessis vowed yesterday the Springboks would not let the All Blacks repeat their opening quarter devastation of England when they meet in the World Cup final tomorrow.

"I can't believe we'll get blown away, it's not in our nature," du Plessis told a news conference when asked if New Zealand could expect to repeat the early onslaught they unleashed on England in the semifinal last Sunday.

Du Plessis, himself a former Springbok captain and number eight, said his players were happy to go into the final as underdogs.

"At the beginning of the tournament there was a mad scramble to be the underdogs, and New Zealand actually won that scramble," du Plessis said.

He added that the All Blacks had lost that status by the time they beat England.

"The press in New Zealand and Australia has written us off," he said. "There's no doubt in anyone's mind who the favorites are. It's a comfortable position to win from."

South African full-back Andre Joubert, asked what he thought about facing up to All Black winger Jonah Lomu after seeing the 118-kilogram flyer flatten England's Mike Catt, replied:

"He's got to get past James [Small] first... But I'll be in his way. It's the final on Saturday, there'll be more pressure. It's a team sport, we'll stop him."

South Africa's number 11 Chester Williams said he rated the other All Black winger – Jeff Wilson, who he will be marking – as a better overall player than Lomu.

"Jeff's a very clever player, he's very good, he's likely to be a playmaker for his teammates," Williams said. "We'll see on Saturday how it will go."

Gertler abductor gets community service

RAINE MARCUS

THE 17-year-old girl who helped kidnap Keren Gertler in February was sentenced to six months' community service and given a 30-month suspended jail sentence yesterday by the Tel Aviv District Court.

Judge Natan Amit had sentenced the girl, who, together with a close relative, Avi Sapan, abducted Gertler at gunpoint, to six months' imprisonment, but then commuted the sentence to community service. Judges may commute prison sentences of up to six months in this fashion at their discretion.

The prosecution had requested a long jail sentence for the conviction on charges that included kidnapping, extortion and illegal possession of weapons.

Gertler, the daughter of diamond dealer Moshe Gertler, was kidnapped at gunpoint by Sapan and the girl near Gertler's Tel Aviv home, as she was making her way back to her army base. She was taken to a small house in Magdiel, where she was drugged.

Sapan then took Gertler's car to Tel Aviv, where he met with and abducted her father.

Sapan, who was an expert shot, was killed in a shoot-out with detectives who cornered him in Ramat Aviv after a sophisticated surveillance operation. Sapan shot and wounded a police officer before he was killed.

He had a criminal record for extortion offenses and had demanded a large ransom from Gertler's family.

In sentencing, Amit ruled that he was taking into consideration the special relationship between the girl and Sapan.

The girl's lawyer, Zion Amir, argued that given the very close relationship, the girl was under the influence of her relative and therefore could not refuse to do his bidding. Judge Amit accepted Amir's claims that in this case, the defendant was also a victim, and not only Gertler.

"She admired him [Sapan] and therefore could not say 'no'," said Amit.

The mother of the girl, who fainted during sentencing, said afterwards that she felt "a great relief and a wonderful feeling."

"We didn't know what to expect," she said.

Her daughter, she said, was undergoing psychiatric treatment and the whole family had been traumatized.

"We haven't been out of the house in months,' she told reporters. "We haven't slept at night and suffered continual anxiety. Now we can begin our lives again and put this behind us."

She called on Keren Gertler to forgive her daughter.

The Gertler family was also in court to hear the sentencing yesterday.

Keren's mother, Hannah, the daughter of former Diamond Exchange president Moshe Shnitzer, was diplomatic about what was described as a lenient sentence for serious offenses.

"We trusted the courts and the judge," she said. "We thought she must get a punishment for the crime. And now she must serve her punishment."

She added that she was not disappointed with the sentence, but that the "whole situation was unpleasant" and that her family had also been traumatized.

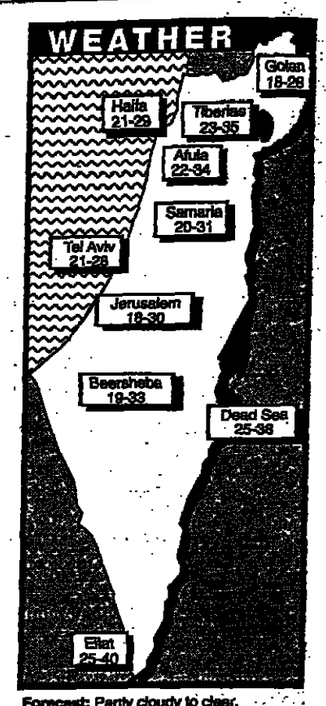
"Our whole lives were turned upside down and our wounds have not yet healed," she said. "I am not angry with the girl's mother, but at the girl and at Avi Sapan. I still fail to understand how a young girl could be influenced to commit such a serious crime."

The girl pleaded with the Gertler family to forgive her on the Second Channel's news program yesterday.

"I am really sorry for what I did," she said in a phone conversation. "I have asked for her forgiveness. Why doesn't she [Keren] want to understand why I did it?"



The mother (right) and sister of the girl who was convicted of the Keren Gertler kidnapping in Tel Aviv District Court yesterday. The sister's face is blacked out because she is a minor. (Alon Ron/Israel Sun)



Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear. Slight rise in temperatures.
Shabbat: Additional rise in temperatures.

AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW C	LOW F	HIGH C	HIGH F	
Amsterdam	08	46	19	66	cloudy
Berlin	12	54	18	64	cloudy
Buenos Aires	09	48	16	61	showers
Cairo	21	70	33	91	clear
Chicago	20	68	30	86	clear
Copenhagen	10	50	22	72	cloudy
Frankfurt	10	50	25	77	clear
Geneva	18	64	26	79	clear
Helsinki	08	46	22	72	clear
Hong Kong	28	84	31	88	clear
Jo'burg	02	36	17	63	clear
Lisbon	22	72	29	84	clear
London	13	55	23	73	clear
Los Angeles	17	62	29	76	clear
Madrid	22	72	38	100	clear
Montreal	12	54	25	77	clear
Moscow	13	55	14	57	rain
New York	18	61	21	70	cloudy
Paris	10	50	22	72	showers
Rome	16	61	29	82	clear

Court: Rapist has no right to child

Baby of 15-year-old girl will be given for adoption

EVELYN GORDON

A MAN who committed statutory rape does not have the right to raise a child born of the union, the Supreme Court ruled yesterday in a precedent-setting decision.

The case involved a married man who had an affair with a 15-year-old girl about three years ago, and was later sentenced to six months in prison for statutory rape. According to the girl, she never agreed to have sex with him, though their relationship lasted for about six months. The man denies this.

The girl became pregnant, and decided to give the child up for adoption. When the man heard about the baby, however, he sued to be allowed to raise it himself. His wife, who is childless, agreed. When the district court rejected the man's suit, he appealed to the Supreme Court.

Yesterday, Justices Shlomo Levine, Eliezer Goldberg, Gavriel Bach, Mishael Cheshin, and Dalia Dorner rejected his appeal, though their reasons for the decision will only be given later. The child, now about two and with a foster family, can therefore in theory be immediately given to the adopted family which has already been lined up for him.

However, attorney Avner Yemini, representing the father, said he plans to ask the court to issue a temporary injunction against the adoption, to give him time to request a rehearing. If this injunction were granted, the child's fate could be in limbo for another several months, since the request for a rehearing cannot be filed until the court issues its reasons for its decision.

"The passing time is a catastrophe for the child," noted attorney Ella Kahan, representing the mother.

Yemini charged that the court's decision contradicted all legal precedent, which gives heavy weight to paternal rights, and says a man cannot be punished for his crimes by having his child taken away.

"This is a moral and legal injustice," he said. "They are taking a child away from his biological father, who is fit, and wants, to raise him."

Kahan strenuously disagreed.

"It is inconceivable that a girl, who was seduced by a married man much older than herself, should have to watch this man and his wife raising her child," she said. "She was used to produce a child for him, and obviously her relationship with the child is very problematic and traumatic. But if the child is given to his father, her connection with the child, and with the biological father, will remain – and that is something she doesn't want, and can't endure."

The decision was also good for the child, she said.

"[Otherwise], he would have to deal with the question of how he came into the world," she said. "What would they tell him? What would happen when he met with his biological mother?"

Yitzhak Kadman, director of the National Council for the Child, agreed with Kahan, saying the decision would prevent any man from thinking seducing a minor and then claiming the child was an answer to a childless marriage.

"I think the Supreme Court did right," he said. "It defended the welfare of a minor twice: first, the welfare of the baby, who will now be given to a good family for adoption, and second, the welfare of the girl – so that no one will think he can ... have sex with a girl, even with her supposed consent, and afterwards enjoy the forbidden fruit."

Three more banks robbed in Dan region

RAINE MARCUS

TWO different bank robbers had a field day yesterday when they robbed three banks in the greater Tel Aviv area within an hour.

In Ashdod, however, a robbery failed in the afternoon when a customer jumped on a robber as he tried to flee the bank with over NIS 24,000, Itim reported.

Police believe the same person was responsible for two of the earlier heists – the first on a Strauss Dairies employee who was depositing NIS 47,500 at a Bnei Brak branch of Bank Hapoalim, and the second less than an half an hour later at a Givatayim branch of Bank Leumi, which netted him NIS 10,000.

The Strauss employee was lightly wounded when the robber hit him on the head with his pistol.

Just before midday, an armed robber robbed a postal bank in Azur of NIS 5,000.

A senior police officer again blamed banks and insurance companies for their lax security arrangements.

"What is strange is that the few suspects we have arrested had no criminal records and were not drug addicts," he said. "Now average citizens – not criminals – are noticing that robbing banks is an easy way to pay back their debts."

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